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Irish women representing the distress of the Irish people with the Relief of the

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Vol. 1.





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LONDON;
BEING AN ACCURATE
HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION
OF THE
BRITISH METROPOLIS
AND ITS
NEIGHBOURHOOD,
TO
THIRTY MILES EXTENT,
from an actual Perambulation.

By **DAVID HUGHSON, LL.D.** *peramb.*

Pugh, Edward,

VOL. I.

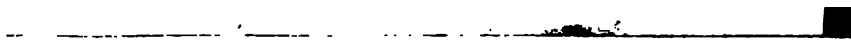
Nurse of Art! The CITY rear'd
In beauteous Pride her Tower encircled Head,
And, stretching Street on Street, by Thousands drew,
From twining woody Haunts, or the tough Yew
To bows strong straining, her aspiring Sons.
Then Commerce brought into the public Walk
The busy Merchant; the big Warehouse built;
Rais'd the strong Crane; choak'd up the loaded Street
With Foreign Plenty; and thy Stream, O Thames,
Large, gentle, deep, majestic, King of Floods!
Chose for his grand Resort!

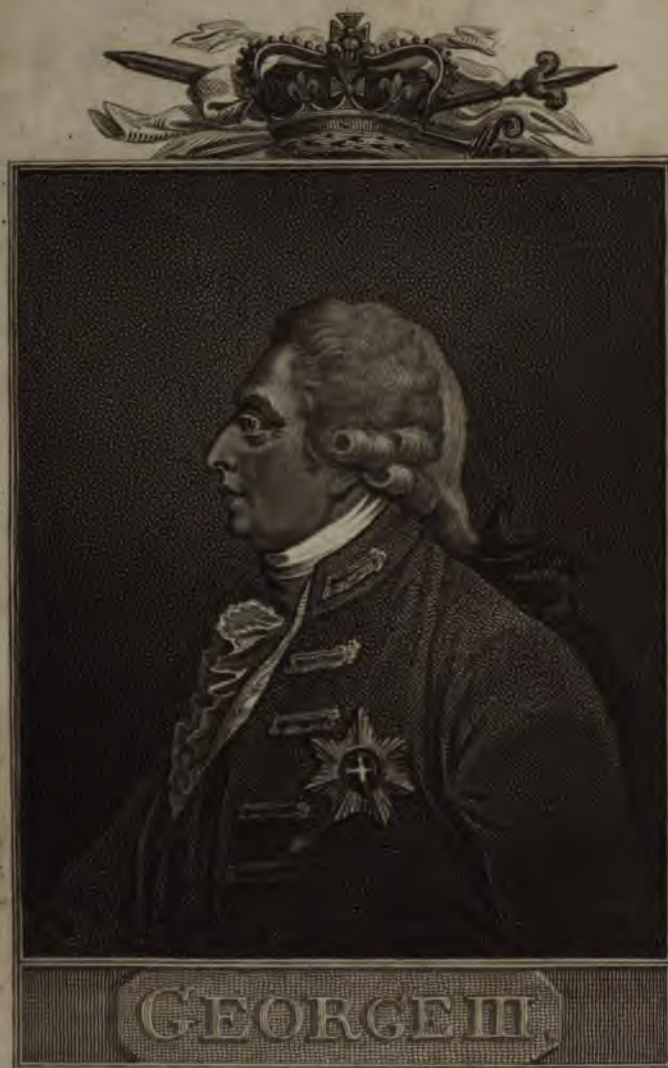
THOMSON.

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J. STRATFORD, No. 112, HOLBORN-HILL;
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1805.





James O'Neil

Taken by permission of the Proprietors of Lyttelton's History of England from a drawing by R. Corbould.

Engraved on the Art Service Book 1810 by J. Corbould, 49 Pall Mall, 1810.

History of London

TO THE

KING'S

MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

SIRE,

WITH humble Duty the
Proprietor and Author of the History, Anti-
quities, and Modern State of the Metropolis
of your United Kingdom, submit the Fruit of
their Labours to your Majesty's gracious
Protection, as the Head of the glorious Con-
stitution;—the Promoter of British Commerce—
the Patron of Arts and Manufactures—and,
above all, the King and Father of a great and
free People; in the fullest Confidence, that
all Works tending to promote Utility and
Information are certain of your Majesty's benign
Patronage.

DEDICATION.

May your Majesty, your illustrious Successors, and the British Nation, be long preserved a bright Example of the joint Confidence, Esteem, and Gratulation of a beloved Monarchy, and a happy Country.

May such Happiness consolidate that Fabric which Discord cannot separate, nor Arrogance, with Impunity, invade.

Every Briton, possessing a Constitution replete with such united Blessings, must adopt in his Prayers—

“ ESTO PERPETUA!”

ADDRESS
TO SUBSCRIBERS AND CONTRIBUTORS,
AND TO
THE PUBLIC.

112, *Holborn-Hill.*

EVERY due acknowledgment upon the completion of Two Volumes of this work to the numerous subscribers, who have not only given liberal encouragement, but bestowed encomiums on the mode in which the undertaking is carried on, having been premised; a few remarks may not be altogether irrelevant on the general tenor of the subject.

That the labour of the compiler is as arduous as it is humble, must be evident; but the general benefit produced evinces its utility and importance. Such a motive induced Dr. Hughson to attempt the present work, which he is happy to declare has received extensive and liberal patronage, the trust test of public opinion; and a palm to merit, however attained, does honour to his exertions, and will consequently encrease the energy of his assiduities.

Two volumes have been completed to popular satisfaction, and some vanity is induced, though not without grateful acknowledgments for singular favours. The estimation of such favour is not easily appreciated; it is beyond all temporary applause, and will be made permanent by the continuation of materials, in the ensuing parts of this undertaking, for information and instruction, at once intrinsically good and valuable.

One person, however, must find that the task which he has thus imposed upon himself is more than equal to the most comprehensive abilities. This has compelled him to resort to such authorities in his researches as needed only their names to stamp the highest recommendation; and Dr. Hughson considers himself justified, by the countenance he has received, in conceiving that his arrangements have not been injudicious, nor the product unentertaining. He is bold to add, that though some parts of the preceding history may, in a few instances, have been unavoidably prolix, such a fund of anecdote and agreeable recital of events, connected with the general purport of the work has been afforded, as to render the whole applicable to its original intention. Nothing shall be omitted which the nature of the subject can suggest or perseverance perform, to render the future part of the Description of London and its Neighbourhood worthy of further liberality and patronage. The work has been undertaken with determined resolution, and the progress of the design has not hitherto betrayed the principle with which it was commenced.

Having thus intruded a few remarks on the literary performance of Hughson's London, little need be said on the graphic embellishments; the various specimens of which speak their several encomiums, and only urge a surprize how they could be afforded for so cheap a price, did not the answer suggest, "THAT THE NUMBER SOLD COMPENSATES THE FIRST EXPENCE."

The whole of the additional Embellishments of Churches, &c. are from original drawings, and engraved in the best stile in the highly improved
art

art of engraving on wood. Most of the churches within the metropolis will be introduced in the body of the work, with the descriptions; but some of the armorial bearings of the incorporated companies will be printed by themselves, with additional care, and given in the numbers as extra embellishments; these will afford, to the curious, elegant specimens of the art of engraving on wood at the commencement of the nineteenth century.

A most correct PLAN OF LONDON is nearly ready for delivery, and will be given in the course of a few numbers; including all the alterations in the streets, &c. and of the new buildings, executed by Mr. C. Russell, of whose eminence in that mode of engraving, there can be no occasion to suggest additional encomium.

A correspondence has been established with gentlemen who make the historic, the topographic, and the scenic arts their study; they have promised their kind assistance, and we have to return thanks for the following useful communications:

A NOBLEMAN, deep read in learning and science, but whose title the proprietors are not at present authorized to declare, claims grateful acknowledgments for the urbane manner in which his lordship promised his interest in the county of Kent.

DR. LETTSOM; DE VISME, Esq.; ——— HATCH, Esq.; demand every token of gratitude for their promotion of the work, and for the liberal manner in which they permitted engravings to be made from drawings in their possession of their respective villas. And in this class J. RAFFIELD, Esq. must be ranked among the friends of the undertaking.

J. GRETTON, Esq. Belmont Place, Vauxhall, has furnished very valuable materials, with promises of more, in the most handsome manner.

Mr. FREIDEBERG's favour and useful hints have been and shall be duly attended to.

The communications from P. P. Vauxhall, contain much matter of information; his excellent documents have been of great use; and his future contributions will be gladly received.

AN UNKNOWN FRIEND, with kind promises concerning Mercers' Hall, is respectfully acquainted that the interest of this undertaking is formidable in that quarter; but his notices shall be treated as they deserve, with unfeigned respect.

If Mr. A. W. will inform the Editor whence his AUTHORITY for his entertaining anecdotes are derived, Dr. H. will be obliged; they are certainly *very amusing*, but as truth, and not fiction is the object of this work, that gentleman is recommended to offer it to another repository of literature, where its sterling merit will ensure speedy publication.

Not so respectable a *lure* is MIDDLETON'S TRIUMPH, an *original* MS. The paper-mark and other correspondent tokens declare its glaring defects; and *such poetry*, who, possessing the beauties of harmonious numbers, would write!

The antiquities of Bushy, in Hertfordshire, are better noticed in *Chauncy* and *Salmon*. The descents also are void of authenticity.

To shew that good humour is the characteristic of the Editor, he begs leave to inform the CORRESPONDENT who complains of *inaccurate spelling*, that it would be as improper to give the deed of Sir Henry Colet, or the letter of Sir Richard Gresham to Henry VIII. which are professedly in the language

language of those times, and from *originals*, as it would be ridiculous to introduce the antiquated costume of the house of Tudor into the polite court of George III.

And had another CORRESPONDENT been any thing like an antiquary, he would have discovered that the present *Holborn* was antiently *SPELT Old-bourne*. This and the preceding are *solitary censurers* among *numerous applauders*.

A long *et cetera* of *correspondence* will receive *general thanks* for *general observations*. The limits of these pages would be insufficient for present further notices on this head.

Little more need be said, than to observe that the rays of information throughout a large circuit will be collected into a focus. It is supposed that the Description of the Metropolis will be comprized in three volumes, and the remainder will be devoted to the local history and beauties of the surrounding vicinity.

To render this Work a standard for information, it has been necessary to make applications to various corporate companies, &c. The interruptions necessarily occasioned before answers *can* be obtained, constitute the *sole cause* of the *present* irregularity of publication: Such arrangements have, however, been adopted, that the third and future volumes will be duly delivered in their proper order. The embellishments for the work are many of them finished, and the whole in great forwardness. It is therefore hoped, that an apology, *upon such grounds*, will have due weight with, and indulgence from, a *numerous* class of *liberal* subscribers; especially when the object is to furnish the *most recent* and *original* accounts of places about to be described.

To obtain these objects more effectually, Dr. Hughson, not doubting a continuance of former liberality and indulgence from those who consider they are conferring a public benefit by their exertions and information, with due deference proposes the following

QUERIES,

and will consider it a great favour, if they will condescend to give such information as may be consistent with their convenience; and should they have any manuscript or printed accounts of places, or lists of pictures, &c. in their various districts, the gift, loan, or a copy of them, will confer an additional obligation; and every security that may be required shall be given for their care and return.

Queries respecting Corporations.

Their History?

Religious and other Foundations?

Streets, their Names and Peculiarities?

Descriptions of public Buildings?

———— Cathedral, Collegiate, and Parish Churches?

Walls and Gates, their History, and peculiar Circumstances?

Corporate Companies and Guilds?

Members of the Corporation. Mayors, Sheriffs, &c.

Parliamentary History, Right of Election, &c.?

Account of Trade, Manufactures, &c.?

———— Accidents, Sieges, Battles in the Neighbourhood?

Queries

Queries respecting Corporate Companies.

Time of their Foundation Charter.
Description of the Hall, Pictures, &c. ?
Account of eminent Members of the Company ?
Magistrates who have been Members ?
Account of Charitable Foundations ?
——— College Fellowships ?
——— Free Schools, and eminent Persons educated there ?
——— Almshouses ?

Queries respecting Parishes.

Antient and Modern Name, Etymology, &c. ?
Distance from London and the nearest Towns ?
Extent, Manors and their Lords, with their Qualities ?
Particular Customs, Privileges, Tenures ?
Castles, Forts, antient Manor or Mansion House, with a List of Pictures, and by what Masters, Ornaments, Figures, &c. ?
Church. In what Diocese situated ? whether Rectory, Vicarage, Curacy, or Sinecure ? List of Incumbents, with Anecdotes ?
——— Its Dimensions, Ornaments, general Description, Galleries, Organ, Monuments, Steeple, Bells, painted Glass, remarkable Inscriptions, antient Chuntries, Legends, Patrons, or other Intelligence adapted to this Subject ?
Chapels of Ease. Where situated ? their Foundation, Support, Incumbents ?
Dissenters of every Persuasion. Their various Classes, Places of Worship, &c. ?
Colleges, Almshouses, Free-schools, Hospitals, with their various Foundations, &c. ?
Monastic Houses, or their Remains ?
Curious Obelisks, Crosses, Inscribed Stones, Barrows, Tumuli ; Roman, Saxon, or Danish Remains, or other Relicks of Antiquity discovered, with an Account, as far as can be traced ?
Markets, Fairs, Manufactures, Navigation, Bridges, Roads, Canals ?
Remarkable Persons, anecdotes of ?
Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats, Account of the Structure, List of Pictures, Account of Horticulture, &c. with the Descent of the Occupiers ?
Romantic Scenes, Views, Situations, natural Curiosities attached to the Place.

And any other analogous Information which they may be pleased to give on any of the above Subjects, addressed to Dr. HUGNSON, at the Publisher's, No. 112, Holborn-Hill.

PREFACE.

BY way of introduction we shall present our readers with a short discourse illustrative of our subject.

TACITUS describes the city of London “ a famous mart of foreign and domestic trade ;” were that judicious historian to see the extraordinary city, in her modern state, his opinion would be expanded in proportion to the extent and improvement it has undergone.

The vast advantages which the capital of the British empire enjoys, from the wealth of its inhabitants, the universality of its commerce, its admirable policy, the variety of its establishments for learning, science, and trade, its charming situation on the banks of the noblest, because the most useful, river in the world, and the generality of health which its inhabitants enjoy in a world of structure and scenery, must be constant subjects of admiration.

Yet these would never have raised the city of London to its present importance, had not the genius of Liberty made it her peculiar residence ; and dispensed around her inestimable blessings. By her means the springs of trade and commerce have been fostered and supported ; hence it is that every sea is covered with British traffic, and that all the productions of nature or art are imported to this common store-house of mankind ! The enjoyment of rational liberty has afforded to the citizens of London, so high a degree of riches and politeness, that their stately houses,
their

their splendid equipages, and the sumptuous arrangements of their household economy exceed the magnificence of princes; whilst the liberality of their dispositions, and the urbanity of their manners, render the hospitality they dispense, a happy refuge to those of all nations who prefer the security of life and property in their comforts, to the glittering pomp and slavery, or the arbitrary will of tyrannic sway. To the cultivation of genuine liberty is also owing the splendor and stateliness of the public buildings, which for aggregate beauty are no where to be excelled; whilst the surrounding seats and crowded villages manifestly indicate the happiness which the citizens enjoy without abatement. This felicity, however, is not the upstart mushroom of the day; it is the gradual product of ages, which has been bravely obtained, carefully preserved, and wisely managed; so that like the sun, its influence has irradiated every quarter of the empire, and caused the surrounding nations to pay due homage to British freedom, fixed as it is, on a basis never to be shaken.

The city of London is the great centre of British trade, which, by the amazing circulation of various home commodities, supplies employment and riches to the remotest counties. It is not the country that brings riches to London; but London which dispenses riches to the country. The country may correspond with the city; but the latter corresponds with all the world; the country supplies the metropolis with corn, malt, cattle poultry, fish, coals, wool, &c. but the remittances in spice, sugar, wine, drugs, tobacco, all foreign productions, and more especially money, from the capital, which keeps the various manufactures in motion, and supports millions of industrious artizans, is more than an adequate

quate compensation. Thus London answers the end of every trade abroad, and of every internal manufacture; it exports, consumes, circulates, and expends; in fine, it is the very soul of commerce to every part of the British dominions and the colonies, at the same time that it may be said to give credit to all the world!

From the city have sprung the greatest and most illustrious of the British nobility; whilst the riches and patriotism of her merchants have often preserved the state, when involved in seemingly inextricable ruin. Let it be an additional encomium, that the great Elizabeth was a descendant from Sir Godfrey Bullen, Lord Mayor of London.

“ I am infinitely delighted,” says the enlightened Addison, “ in mixing with the several ministers of commerce, as they are distinguished by their different walks (on the Royal Exchange) and different languages; sometimes I am jostled among a body of Arminians; sometimes I am lost in a crowd of Jews, and sometimes make one in a groupe of Dutchmen. I am a Dane, Swede, or Frenchman, at different times: or rather fancy myself like the old philosopher, who, upon being asked what countryman he was, replied, “ That he was a citizen of the world.”

“ When I have been upon the 'Change,” continues this writer, “ I have often fancied one of our old kings standing in person, where he is represented in effigy, and looking down upon the wealthy concourse of people with which that place is every day filled. In this case how would he be surprised to hear all the languages of Europe spoken in this little spot of his former dominions; and to see so many private men who, in his time, would have been the vassals of some powerful baron, negotiating

negotiating like princes, for greater sums of money than were formerly to be met with in the royal treasury."

It was a shrewd observation of Charles II. "*That the tradesmen were the only gentry in England.*" This monarch had travelled sufficiently to be well acquainted with the world, and had observed, that a country without trade could only boast of needy nobility. In England the case was widely different. The English are a considerate, a thinking nation, and therefore learning and trade have been the two principal channels to nobility; so that the citizens of London, like the Tyrians of old, have justly arrived to the dignity of princes.

Having thus offered a few observations on the greatness of London, we will add to its dignity a glory in which it is singular;—its Beneficence! The extent of its charitable contributions is unbounded; no city or nation can equal it for humanity. No species of distress exists, but the friendly hand of Benevolence is ready to alleviate the poignancy of the sufferer. Every avenue to the city is ornamented with structures sacred to the most benign of all virtues, Charity!

The history of a metropolis like this, claims the pens of the most exalted writers to do it ample justice. Our readers will therefore consider the labour we have undertaken; and should any unavoidable mistakes arise, impute the error, not to carelessness or inattention, but to the magnitude of a work which is to describe the remote and recent history, the policy, grandeur, hospitality, population, &c. of the first metropolis in the world—a City without a parallel!



L O N D O N.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE METROPOLIS, UNDER THE BRITONS AND ROMANS.

THE prescription of our subject, not permitting us to be very diffuse concerning the remote history of this magnificent city, we deduce such concise materials only as are merely appropriate to our purpose, and a glance at etymology, therefore, must be sufficient. Cæsar, in his Commentaries, denominates it the chief city of the Trinobantes, which, with submission to higher authority, is easily converted to *Tre-yn-y-bant*, describing the exact situation of the British *town in the valley*, the vale of London being certainly one of the most extensive in the British dominions, taking it from Brentwood to Windsor one way, and from Hampstead to the Surrey Hills another.

That London was originally a British town is undoubted; and although it might afterwards be dignified with the names of Londinium, Augusta, &c. it is very evident that the Romans, with the national spirit of all conquerors, affected to bury British under Roman denominations; and we are led to assert this from the conviction, that had this been a town originally constructed by the Romans, they would certainly

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have

have imposed upon it a Roman name. It is most probable therefore, that these conquerors finding a site which had been previously occupied, they necessarily continued the original British name, softened by a Roman termination.

Cæsar and Tacitus inform us, that the British towns were not scenes of regular and general residence; they were only their places of refuge amid the dangers of war, where they might occasionally lodge their wives, children, and cattle, and the weaker resist the stronger, till succours could arrive. These towns were planted in the centre of their woods, defended by the advantages of their position, and secured by a regular rampart and fosse. In their holds, they resisted the attacks of the best troops under the command of the most experienced officers in the world, and even gained from the latter, the repeated praise of excellent fortifications*.

As the Romans regularly extended their conquests, they appear to have equally erected stations for themselves, and cities for the Britons, thus Claudius constructed the cities of Glevum or Glouster, Colonia or Colchester, Augustæ Trinobantes, and other lesser places. By such means the success of the Roman arms was distinctly marked, and the face of the island of Britain gradually brightened up by the progress of cultivation. Thus the acts of civil life, and the sweets of social happiness superseded the rough genius of selfish policy.

In the mode of forming towns used by the Romans, their first object seems to have been to construct military ways, consistently with the ancient custom of making new roads, preparatory to the general's approach; hence the Scripture

* "Cognoscit non longè ex eo loco oppidam Cassivelauni abesse, sylvis palludibusque munitum; quo satis magnus hominum pecorisque numerus convenerit. Oppidum autem Britanni vocant quòd sylvas impeditas vallo atque fossâ munierunt. Locum reperit egregiè naturâ atque opera munitum. Se in sylvas abdiderunt, locum nacti egregiè naturâ et opere munitum,—quem—jam antè præparaverant."

By these and many other passages among the Latin authors, it will easily be allowed, that our British ancestors possessed more considerable skill in the art of fortification, than some historians are willing to grant them. *Whitaker's Manchester, &c.*

text,

text, "Prepare ye, make ready, the way, &c." is explained. The chief excellence of these roads was their direct course; for being constructed at a period when the laws of property were superseded by the power of conquest, they were naturally laid out in the straightest lines from place to place. Many of these roads have continued uninjured to the present period. It appears, however, from undoubted authority, that the two great ways denominated Watling and Ikening Street, were undertaken by the Belgian Britons, before the Roman invasion. These were formed, for the purposes of commerce, and constructed by the concurrent endeavours of the other Britons, so as to traverse the central parts of the island, and lead to such provinces as were stored with vendible commodities.

The modes of Roman policy gaining ground in all their settlements, it is not surprizing that the conquered should also adopt, by their near residence, objects of convenience, to which they were invited by the expansion of Roman manners. Hence we observe, that to the original street others were annexed, and branched out in every direction. In the intervals formed by the intersection of these streets, some vacant space was assigned for a market. This was evidently an introduction by the Romans. Improvements naturally occurred to convenience, and soon established the regular economy of other public and private structures, streets, walls, and towns; magnificent dwellings for the rich soon made their appearance, and necessity impelled an allotment of smaller spaces for the habitations of the useful and laborious populace. By adhering to this principle, the greatest political advantages resulted, industry was stimulated, morals were improved by example, and the reciprocal distribution of good offices, incorporated a community of regularity, convenience, and prosperity, instead of a heterogeneous mixture of rudeness, unskilfulness, and disorder.

The streets and buildings of the Romans were not however constructed upon a plan to promote future health, or prevent accident; the first were extremely narrow; the latter consequently, too lofty. Thus, neglecting to inform

themselves of the peculiarities of climate, these people formed the British streets and buildings after models of their own cities, and did not discover that the more temperate air of this island, precluded the necessity of such buildings, as in Rome, to skreen the inhabitants from the heat of the sun. We deduce from this circumstance, the narrowness of most of the streets in the ancient cities of Britain.

The foundations of brick and stone were evidently Roman additions to the British buildings, and the round holes in the roofs of their cabins, were by the former elegantly altered into cupola chimnies. The coverings of these huts, formerly of long reeds, now gave way to the more convenient mantling of straw thatch; and of such materials was the roofing of buildings in London, within these four centuries. The respectable structures were, however, more conveniently covered with *scindulæ*, or shingles, and some with *tegulæ*, or tiles. Another kind of covering was that species of light-coloured stones abounding in Britain, denominated *glatta*, or slate. Some Roman buildings in Britain, appear by their remains, to have been actually roofed with this useful material, "which was," as Hearne informs us in his account of the Stunsfield pavement, "fastened to the roofs with nails of iron, hooked, long, and large*."

Similar to the modern temporary windows of unfinished houses, was the defence against the intrusion of weather, and the medium for the admission of light to the dwellings of our ancestors. Neither the Britons nor Romans had found out the obvious, necessary, convenient, and agreeable application of the metal whence glass is obtained. The windows† of the gentry were furnished merely with lattices of wood, or sheets of linen; even the windows of our cathedrals in the seventh-century, were composed of only substitutes‡.

It

* Leland, vol. viii. p. 30.

† Window is provincially pronounced Windor, or Wind-door, from the Welsh, *Uynt Dor*, signifying the passage for the wind.—Whitaker.

‡ Polybius gives us the following description of a Roman intrenchment. The prætorium or square for the general's tent was two hundred

It may here be proper to advert to circumstances which evidently display the early respectability of London. The Romans were a sagacious and intelligent people; it could not therefore escape them, that the situation of London was singularly favourable for traffic; and their foresight has

dred feet each way; this was surrounded by the tents of the tribunes, six on each side, taking up a space of fifty feet. The forum or market-place was on one side of the prætorium, two hundred feet in breadth, and three hundred and fifty feet in length. Opposite, on the other side of the prætorium, were the lodgings of the quæstors, of equal length and breadth with the forum. To these were joined the lodgings of the præfecti. These parts of the encampment were bounded by the principal streets which intersected each other at the prætorium, and passed to the four gates. On the other sides of these streets, were two long divisions, each one hundred feet broad, and five hundred feet long, subdivided into ten squares, in which were lodged the ten companies of cavalry. On the outside of these compartments were two other divisions of equal length, only fifty feet wide, these were the lodgings for ten companies of the triarii. Another street fifty feet broad, containing two long divisions, one hundred feet wide, and of equal length with the former, of ten squares, were appointed for the lodgings of the ten companies of the principes. Two other divisions, equal in length and breadth with the former, were the lodgings of the ten companies of the hastati or spearmen. To these was added another street, fifty feet wide; then two other long divisions one hundred and fifty feet wide, but of equal length with the former: these were the lodgings for the auxiliary cavalry; other divisions two hundred feet wide, but of equal length with the former, were appropriated as the lodgings of the auxiliary infantry; a transverse street contained the lodgings for select voluntary cavalry; the select voluntary foot, with the former, occupied a space three hundred and fifty feet long, and two hundred feet broad: another transverse street intervened, of one hundred feet broad, in which were lodged the foreigners and allies, occupying a space of three hundred and fifty feet long, and one hundred and fifty feet broad: on the outside of these were placed the extraordinary infantry, and the extraordinary cavalry; these together occupied a space of four hundred and fifty feet long, and one hundred and fifty feet broad, and were all bounded by a void space around the whole camp, two hundred feet broad. The four principal entrances were each fifty feet wide. All this repository of warfare was surrounded by the vallum and the fosse, or ditch. The reader will observe, however, that this camp is imagined to be composed of two legions and their auxiliaries, who were lodged exactly in the same manner, one legion on one side the street, and the other opposite.

been

been fully justified by the event. "Rising on a gentle declivity, in the heart of a fertile soil and wholesome climate, at a commodious distance from the sea, and washed by a beautiful, deep and broad river, navigable by vessels of every form and size, it seemed in immediate contact with every port on the continent; and as experience has demonstrated, with every port and shore of the globe."

It was in London therefore, that the Romans fixed their grand emporium, and wisely incorporated the original settlers with the mass of Roman citizens; this was about A. D. 54.

The progress of cultivation was slow but determinate; the necessary attention, however, which its encouragement produced, stimulated the powers of invention and ingenuity, and of course created employment for the active mind. Thus the vast attractives of health, pleasure, and the hope of riches, combined in alluring fresh inhabitants to the municipium, that so early as the beginning of Nero's reign, it had increased to such a degree, as to be deemed the largest, the most populous, and the most opulent city in the British island. We are informed also by the future testimony of Tacitus, in his *Annals**, that "London, so called from its situation, and Augusta from its magnificence, was now illustrious for the vast number of merchants who resorted to it for widely extended commerce, and the abundance of every species of commodity which it could supply."

Another grand mark of the consequence which ancient London had acquired at this early period, is, that in the famous Itinerary of Antoninus, no less than seven of the fifteen iters commence or terminate here; a very satisfactory proof that it was considered by the Romans as the metropolis of the country; and this is further established by another circumstance, marking the distinction and superiority of this metropolis, that it was the residence of the vicar of Britain under the Roman emperors, and of his retinue, who maintained the dignity of his office in great splendour. The

* Lib, xiv. c. 33-

abode of such an officer of distinction clearly marks London to have been the seat of government, of justice, and of the finances; which consequently contributed to her magnificence, wealth, and importance; so early as A. D. 359, no less than eight hundred vessels were employed in her port for the exportation of corn only. The felicity of her situation induced universal commerce, which procured to her citizens every other advantage.

Very few places, except London, have any trace of being Roman stations, but by name. She alone, has outlived the ravages of time, revolution, and accident; has risen more glorious from disaster, and, as a modern writer observes, "has acquired a splendor which sinks the pride of her once Imperial mistress."

It has been asserted, that London was first regularly walled by the empress Helena, mother of Constantine the Great; the fortifications were, however, certainly enlarged by Theodosius, afterwards emperor of Rome, whose capacious mind determined him to afford a future benefit and security, to a city which, being rendered weak by its magnitude and opulence, was frequently a prey to selfish governors or lawless banditti, as in the present instance it had been to the Picts and Scots. Theodosius, from a state of distress and anarchy had, during his short administration of six years, restored the country to unexampled prosperity and respectability; and when he was called to fill the highest station in the empire, he was attended to his galley by the benedictions of grateful multitudes, and fervent prayers for his prosperity.

Bereft of the valour and magnanimity of her deliverer, Britain was again unhappily a prey to the robbery and spoliation of her inveterate neighbours, who were no longer restrained by the bravery of Theodosius, nor awed by his authority; and very soon evinced to the afflicted inhabitants, that unprotected walls were but trifling bulwarks of defence. The Romans had now withdrawn their troops, the flower of the British youth had been drafted to recruit the Imperial army, during the contention for superiority; and
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to fill up the measure of wretchedness, famine and pestilence threatened the British colony with extermination; and there is little doubt but that London, from its consequence in the state, must have peculiarly felt the utmost force of these national disasters; but happily for the feeling mind, history has drawn a veil over such scenes of horror, and excludes the pain of contemplating the distressed Londinum Augusta, a vast field of rapine, bloodshed, and disease.

The admission of the Saxons was peculiarly calamitous to Britain; a sanguinary and unremitting contention of massacre and plunder for nearly one hundred and fifty years was the consequence, which terminated in the subjugation of the British spirit, and nearly of the British name. Under the Roman government, twenty-eight considerable cities, besides many villages, &c. had been raised, and the inhabitants had made great progress in arts and sciences; but the fierce barbarians, whom they had invited over as protectors, profaned their contract; thus the country was again put into confusion, and such of the native Britons as they did not immolate, they reduced to the most absolute servitude. Ruinous neglect, and destructive violence levelled the elegant fabrics raised by the conquerors of the world; the beautiful and venerable productions of Grecian and Roman architecture were levelled with the dust: and London, even at this day, among other favourite residences of Imperial government, has to deplore the loss of edifices sacred to religion, to science, and to virtue.

A very curious description of Roman London is given in a letter to Hearne the antiquarian, in 1714, from the ingenious and elaborate Mr. John Bagford, who made the research into the antiquities of this city his peculiar study: from which the following is extracted:

“ When the Romans came first into this island, they landed near Dover, and from thence proceeded by easy journies towards this city, raising their military ways, and at every ten miles distance fixing their stations or camps.

“ Their approach was by several ways both on the right hand and left, as will appear from the following observations,
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in which I shall not insist upon what hath been noted by former authors, but will only relate what hath been discovered within my own memory.

“ 1. A Roman camp was lately found near Farnborough, which is a village within a few miles of Bromley in Kent, and about sixteen miles distant from London.

“ 2. At Peckham of late years was dug up in the middle of the high-way a famous glass Roman urn; which I the more willingly take notice of, because urns of this kind are scarce and are not commonly seen.

“ 3. Much about the same time, not far from St. Thomas Watering, in a garden near the road was dug up an ancient Janus's head in marble.

“ 4. Many other Roman antiquities have been found on the edge of Blackheath, particularly in that part next the town of Leusum.

“ 5. On the left hand of Kent Street in the road to London, in the garden ground, (which was a Roman military way, and is commonly made use of upon an extraordinary cavalcade, as it was particularly upon the entrance of king Charles II. at his return from Holland, and at such time is layed open,) they have found in digging several Roman Antiquities, with many of their coins both in silver and brass, some of which were much esteemed by the worthy Mr. Charlton. I have seen many of these antiquities myself, by the favour of my good friend Mr. John Cannop, such as glass bottles with a liquor in them, and divers old Roman utensils.

“ 6. To these must be added a great many Roman antiquities, that were found in the grounds of Mr. Ewer at Clapham in digging for gravel. They are still in being, and have been viewed by Mr. John Kemp, who, as he is a great judge in these affairs, so he owns that some of them are extraordinary, and such as he had not seen before.

“ I have been the more particular on this subject, to shew that the Romans were much and had their several stations in Surry, and left many remains behind them for future ages to admire.

“ And now I shall relate to you the manner of the Roman approaches nearer to London. For they always took care to secure all behind them by their several camps or situations on their new made military ways. These led along Kent Street, on the left hand leading to London, and pointed directly to Dowgate, now so called, through an arch since built by the bishop of Winchester at his stairs, which to this day is called Stone Street, and came directly out of Surry.

“ It was at this very place (as I take it) that the Roman legions forded over the river of Thames, first the horse, and then the foot, which might not then take them up to the shoulders. And this they might attempt (as we may conjecture) when the tide was first coming in, they then making an angle, and directing their course against the stream of the river. When they came to the middle of the stream, the tide drove them to their intended landing place, which was Dowgate. For you must suppose the river was much wider, and consequently much shallower than it is now, there being then no wharf, key, nor bridge, but a smooth sand to land upon. Neither was there at that time any mud, such as is now caused by vessels and timbers lying on the shore.

“ Afterwards it happened ferries were made use of on that part of the river, although they have been discontinued for some hundreds of years past. For the sands are in many places removed since the building of the bridge, which was first of wood and then of stone. After that, fording was more westward, as, for instance, at the end of the outward Temple, since called Essex House; next to which was Milford, so called from a mill to grind corn, and is to this day called Milford Lane, just against St. Clement's Church at that end of the Strond next Temple Bar. And all that shore to Westminster, long before it was built, was called the Strond.

“ Against York House is another fordable place, but hath not been made use of for some years.

“ We may conclude that the Britains, on this side were ready to receive the Romans at their coming on shore, though being not long able to endure the shock they gave them at their first landing, they fled and left them entire masters of the adjacent parts.

“ The first thing the Roman general had principally to take care of, was to fix his camp and secure the army, which, after their first landing on this side, was about the middle of the street now called Bush Lane, where he pitched his tent, which was paved, as was customary among the Roman generals, and was encompassed about by the soldiers both horse and foot. This pavement was dug up some time after the dreadful fire of London, and part of it is now to be seen in the museum of the Royal Society, where several other valuable remains of Roman antiquities are carefully preserved, which may hereafter afford very good hints to such as shall attempt to write the antiquities of this famous city.

“ The next care the Romans took to secure themselves in their new conquests, was by making public military ways, as that of Watling Street, which extended from the Tower to Ludgate, in a direct line ; at the ends of which, for their better security, they built citadels as we now call them, or, as they were stiled by them, stations ; one of which, without dispute, was what now goes by the name of the Tower, though this is not to be understood of the Tower as it appears at this day, but only of that part of it which we now call the White Tower, a place that hath since been made use of as a chapel to the princes that have kept their courts within those walls.

“ The architecture of this White Tower is perhaps as ancient as any building now remaining amongst us. It is built like one of the Roman Rotundos, and exactly corresponds therewith. It was new cased by king Charles I. ; but in Leland's time (as appears from a rude draught of it, for I take this draught to be designed for nothing else, at the end of the second tome of his Collectanea) it had four round turrets, and since three of them are made square. They all seem to me

to have been several stair-cases to go to the several offices. I have often viewed this chapel, and much admired its antiquity. It is commonly reported to have been built by Julius Cæsar, which I look upon as a good argument to shew that it is of the Roman times. It is not improbable that the Saxons made use of the same fortifications for their security after the Romans had left this island. For when the chapel was fitted up for reception of records, there remained many Saxon inscriptions. No doubt William the Conqueror considerably augmented it to keep the citizens in awe upon any insurrection that might happen. For they had a reciprocal affection for each other.

“ I shall pass over a farther account of the antiquities of this place, and next observe, that not far distant from this station of the Romans, I mean the Tower, there was a burying place, which of late years was found to be in that ground, which commonly goes by the name of Goodman’s Field’s. These fields are mentioned by John Stow, but he takes no notice that they were a Roman burying-place. In digging the foundations for building of houses in or about the year 1678-9 there were found many urns, together with the ashes and bones of the dead, and several other antiquities, as brass and silver money, with an unusual urn in copper, curiously enamelled in colours, red, blue, and yellow, which was preserved by the then earl of Peterborough. I have seen many other antiquities found here, and had some of them formerly in my own possession.

“ I shall next turn towards Spittle Fields, where the like antiquities have been found many years ago, and were seen by John Stow, and are mentioned by Weever and others.

“ These fields lie against Goodman’s Fields, crossing White Chapel Street; where, on the farther side thereof next Bishopsgate Street, was another station of the Romans, in that part which formerly bore the name of the Old Artillery Ground, and was their field of Mars, in which place the Romans trained up and exercised their young soldiers, and likewise the youth of the neighbouring Britains, in the skill and exercise of arms, that they might be more expert in the use of them

them upon all emergent occasions. And if any sudden tumults or insurrections should happen in the city, they were then ready and at hand to suppress them.

“ This field of Mars was in imitation of that at Old Rome, where they mustered their soldiers, and must needs have been a very large place, as the same is excellently described, and likewise observed to have been a Roman camp by a judicious author in the latter end of queen Elizabeth’s reign.

“ I shall next observe another old building of the Romans, which was a watch-tower, then and now called Barbican. It is mentioned by John Stow ; but nothing remains of this antique building except the name. Here they kept cohorts of soldiers in continual service to watch in the night, that if any sudden fire should happen, they might be in readiness to extinguish it, as also to give notice if an enemy were gathering or marching towards the city to surprise them. In short, it was a watch-tower by day, and at night they lighted some combustible matter on the top thereof, to give directions to the weary traveller repairing to the city, either with provision, or upon some other occasion.

“ The same was intended by a lanthorn on the top of Bow-steeple before the fire of London, (although seldom made use of) for burning of lights to give direction to travellers, and to the market people that came from the northern parts to London.

“ The same watch-tower stood, as near as I can guess, much about the same place where the earl of Bridgwater’s house stood before it was pulled down, (for I must confess I have not met with any remains of that ancient building,) and not far from the old military road of the Romans, (which indeed seems to me to be the most ancient at this time extant) to this day called Old Street.

“ In the same street against Golding Lane there likewise remains the stump or foot of an old cross, which we may conclude was formerly a mile-stone. And I believe many others were placed in the cross-roads in several places of this kingdom, which were taken away by the ancient monks and
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friers, and if near a monastery, a cross set up in the room thereof.

“ This *tower in Barbican* was near unto Aldersgate Street, which put me upon farther enquiry relating to its antiquity. I look upon it as a sufficient confirmation of its being a Roman building, that just against Jewin Street there stand two houses with the date of 1589, and that on the front of them are the figures of some old Roman coins, which I suppose might be found in digging the foundations for building of those houses, and I am apt to believe that the builder for his curiosity might cause moulds of the same to be made as large as the brims of a middle sized hat, and that the plaisterer took them off, and fixed them in the front, under the first story window.

“ Many more figures of the same kind were fixed up about the same year, viz. 1589, about which time much timber building was erected in and about London. Divers of which figures are still to be seen in the fronts of some houses, particularly in Oldbourne against Shew Lane, as also at the corner house (being the Queen's Head Tavern) of St. John's Lane, at the end of Peter Street, not to specify several houses besides, which I rather leave to the curiosity of others.

“ And for a further confirmation of this my opinion, I desire you to be at the trouble of looking into Stow, as he is continued by A. Munday, about the building of Aldgate, where you will find the description of a Roman coin that was found in digging the foundation; which Mr. Martin Bond, one of the surveyors of that work, caused to be carved in stone, and fixed on either side of the gate eastward. This was done in the year 1607, when he laid the foundation stone. By which you may perceive that Mr. Bond took his hint from those done in plaister on the fronts of houses.

“ In Aldersgate Street, likewise, just against St. Paul's Alley, in the front of a brick house is set in a nitch in the upper story of the house, (to be seen by all passengers,) the figure of
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of Fortitude in marble, but headless. And this I take to be very antique.

“ Besides all this, I have observed in Bishopsgate Street, just against Widegate Alley, which leads to Spittle Fields, on the top of a brick house, (next to the house of Sir Paul Pindar, and inhabited in the year 1658, by Ferdinando, a Jew, who was supposed to be the king of Spain’s factor,) the figure of Jupiter with an Eagle at his foot, set in a niche as the former. I will not be positive, but in all likelihood these are Roman figures, and perhaps digged up in the foundations of those houses.

“ Upon such occasions there have been several other antiquities of the old Romans found in the subterraneous parts of London as well as Rome, particularly great store of them when the city was rebuilt, many of which I have perused myself, having been found not only within the walls, but in the out-parts likewise.

“ And here I must not forget to mention the honest industry of my old friend Mr. John Conyers, an Apothecary formerly living in Fleet Street, who made it his chief business to make curious observations, and to collect such antiquities as were daily found in and about London. His character is very well known, and therefore I will not attempt it. Yet this I must note, that he was at great expence in prosecuting his discoveries, and that he is remembered with respect by most of our antiquaries that are now living. It is this very gentleman that discovered the body of an elephant, as he was digging for gravel in a field near to the sign of Sir John Oldcastle in the Fields, not far from Battle Bridge, and near to the river of Wells, Fleet Ditch, which, though now dried up, was a considerable river in the time of the Romans. How this elephant came there? is the question. I know some will have it to have lain there ever since the Universal Deluge. For my own part I take it to have been brought over with many others by the Romans in the reign of Claudius the emperor, and conjecture (for a liberty of guessing may be indulged to me, as well as to others that maintain different hypothesis) that it was killed in some fight by a Britain.

For

For not far from the place where it was found, a British weapon made of a flint launce like unto the head of a spear, fastened into a shaft of a good length, which was a weapon very common amongst the ancient Britains, was also dug up, they having not at that time the use of iron or brass, as the Romans had. This conjecture, perhaps, may seem odd to some; but I am satisfied myself, having often viewed this flint weapon, which was once in the possession of that generous patron of learning, the reverend and very worthy Dr. Charlett, master of University College, and is now preserved amongst the curious collections of Mr. John Kemp.

“ This discovery was made in the presence of the aforesaid Mr. Conyers, and I remember that formerly many such bones were shewn for giants bones, particularly one in the church of Aldermanbury, which was hung in a chain on a pillar of the church; and such another was kept in St. Laurence's church, much of the same bigness. All which bones were publicly to be seen before the dreadful fire of London, as it appears to me from the Chronicles of Stow, Grafton, Munday, &c.

“ I do not doubt but many bones of the like nature, as also the shanks, scalps, grinders, &c. were formerly preserved in such monasteries as stood near to the places where they were first digged up, and that after some time they were shewn to the common people as the relics of giants, such as those of St. Christopher, &c.

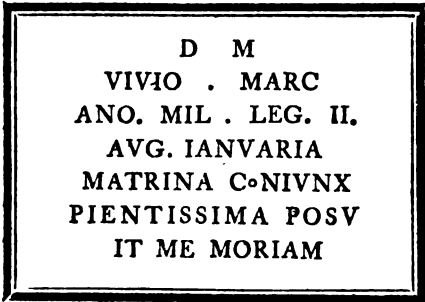
“ At the other end of the old Roman way, which I mentioned at first to lead from the Tower, near the Thames, was another castle, which the Romans built as a watch tower, and is mentioned, if I mistake not, by Fitz-Stephen, and stood at the entrance of Black Friars into that part of the city. This tower when demolished was sufficient to provide materials, for building a noble and magnificent house for the friars, who met with such signal favours and encouragement, that part of the very wall of the city (which run in a direct line from Ludgate to the Thames) was removed for them, that part which then came to this castle being pulled down to make way for their settlement, and turned short to Fleet Ditch, as appears by the ruins at this time.

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“ Some years ago, on the south side of Ludgate was taken up out of the rubbish a Roman inscription *, that hath been taken notice of by some learned men, and not many years since on the left hand coming in at Ludgate, in the residentiary’s yard of Saint Paul’s, was discovered a Roman aqueduct close adjoining to the wall of this city. Such another was found after the fire by Mr. Span, an ancient citizen, in Holyday Yard, in Creed Lane, digging the foundations for a new building, and this was carried round a bath that was built in a round form with niches at an equal distance for seats.

“ At some small distance farther, on the left hand, at the west end of St. Paul’s, over against St. Paul’s College, in a vacant place, was discovered a potter’s kiln, where were made several vessels of clay of a red colour, curiously glazed, which were of different shapes and sizes, as occasion should require them to be made use of in their sacrifices, and many times the potter’s name was stamped at the bottom. This kiln was near to the temple where Diana was worshipped, that the people might be furnished with all sorts of vessels they had occasion for at the time when they made their sacrifices. There hath been a great quantity of the fragments digged up

* Whether London had the name of Augusta from *Helena Augusta*, mother of Constantine the Great, or from the residence of the *Legio Secunda Augusta* is not recorded; but that the Legion was certainly here is evident from the inscription alluded to, which was dug up in 1669,



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VIVIO . MARC
ANO. MIL . LEG. II.
AVG. IANVARIA
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PIENTISSIMA POSV
IT ME MORIAM

at the west end of St. Paul's, of which I had several. And on the south side of the church, not only in former times, as we are informed by J. Stow, but of late days since the fire, at the first beginning to build St. Paul's Church, there were found several scalps of oxen, and a large quantity of boars tusks, with divers earthen vessels, especially patera, that were of different shapes.

“ Upon this occasion I must note by the way, that from the observations I have made, I gather that all the vessels made use of by the Romans in their sacrifices were generally made of red earth, and were glazed. But those of a larger size, as their platters, which received the blood of the beasts slain in sacrifice, were made of a coarser earth, but not red. Most of their urns also (according to their several forms and sizes) were made of another different sort of earth; though some are found made of glass, which, however, are not common. Others of the greatest rank had them made of Porphyry stone, and some of copper enamelled with divers colours.

“ The next place I shall take notice of, is the chamber of Diana, situated on the eminence of St. Paul's Wharf, within a great gate next Doctor's Commons, where are many fair tenements, which in the leases made by the dean and chapter, go by the name or title of *Camera Dianæ*, so denominated from a specious building, which, in the time of Henry II. stood where the houses are now erected.

“ In this Camera, or arched and vaulted structure, full of intricate meanders, the same king Henry (as he is said to have done at Woodstock) kept that jewel of his heart, fair Rosamond, by the name of Diana, and it is from thence that this edifice was denominated.

[This in due deference to Stow, &c. might have been a *Camera Dianæ*, previously to the time when Henry II. kept here his concubine Rosamond; and his majesty, in allusion to the more ancient designation of the place, might have turned the compliment of *Camera Dianæ* in praise of his paramour.]

“ At this time (as is noted by How, in his continuation of Stow, p. 781) some ruins of it are remaining, and many evident

evident testimonies of intricate turnings and windings, as also a subterraneous passage to Castle Baynard, which no doubt the king made use of privately to have access to his *brightest Diana*, one of the most exquisite and most celebrated beauties that we find mentioned in any history.

“ Here we are at a loss for Leland’s opinion, but we may suppose it to be a Roman building, being so near to the temple of Diana.

“ Much may be said concerning this temple of Diana, and particularly that it was built on the south side of St. Paul’s. For it seems to me, that those large quantities of vessels that have been found on the west side, were the remaining fragments of such as were broken at the kiln when first made. And if farther search had been made on the south side, and nearer Doctors Commons, there might probably have been found many other Roman antiquities, which would have given several curious, learned and judicious men much greater light into these matters than it is possible for them now to obtain without the help of such assistance.

“ A Roman temple near the Tilt Yard, is taken notice of in Norden’s *Middlesex*, who observes that it was a Roman temple, where they offered sacrifice to their country gods.

“ What other temples either the ancient Britains or Romans had within the limits of this city, have not yet fallen within my observation; although I am apt to believe that they both worshipped the same gods, under different denominations, and very near accorded in the manner of their sacrifices: and it is very probable that Belinsgate is deprived from Belin, the British name for Apollo, and not from a king, as several have asserted. I will not be positive, but it is likely many other temples, besides what are here mentioned, were erected in this city.

“ And now I shall take notice of a very great curiosity found in Mark Lane, more properly called Mart Lane, it being a place where the Romans, and not improbably the ancient Britains used to barter their commodities, as tin, lead, &c. with other nations, it may be with the Greeks,

who often came into this island to purchase the like goods. Whence I am apt to conjecture, that the name of the lane hath been continued ever since the times of the Romans, and that the names of some other lanes and streets, as Cornhill, Grace Street, the Querne, Broad Street, Watling Street, and perhaps Old Fish Street, &c. are of equal antiquity, and were so called from the same kind of accidents. The curiosity I am speaking of is a brick, found about forty years since, twenty-eight foot deep below the pavement, by Mr. Stockley, as he was digging the foundation of an house that he built for Mr. Wolley. Near to this place were dug up many quarters of wheat burnt very black, but yet sound; which were conjectured to have lain buried ever since the burning of this city about eight hundred years before. This brick is of a Roman make, and was a key-brick to the arch where the corn was found. It is made of a curious red clay, and in bas relief, on the front hath the figure of Sampson putting fire to the foxes tails, and driving them into a field of corn. It seems to be the same story that is mentioned in Scripture of destroying the Philistines corn, from whence came the fable of Hercules to be the guardian of their corn stores, or granaries: as they had their peculiar deities for all domestic affairs in or near their houses and camps, as Priapus was the protector of their gardens, &c. not to mention many other household gods of several names and uses.

“ The brick is at this time preserved in the Museum belonging to the Royal Society in Fleet Street. I at the same time must not forget to acquaint you, that the late ingenious Richard Waller, Esq. (whose death is much lamented by the virtuosos) communicated to me the following account of the measure of it, as it was exactly taken, *viz.*

On the picture or largest face	{ broad — 4. Inches.
	{ long — $5\frac{1}{8}$. Inches.
On the other or reverse side	{ broad — $3\frac{7}{8}$. Inches.
	{ long — $5\frac{1}{8}$. Inches.
Its thickness is — $2\frac{4}{5}$. Inches.	

At the same time Mr. Waller observed to me in his letter, that the proportions in the bass relieve are so very fine, that
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it is plain from thence, that it cannot be a work of the bass empire; "but then," says he "how the story of Sampson should be known to the Romans, much less to the Britons, so early after the time of the propagation of the gospel, seems to be a great doubt; except it should be said that some Jews after the final destruction of Jerusalem should wander into Britain, and London, being even in Cæsar's time a port or trading city, they might settle here, and in the arch of their own granary record the famous story of their delivery from their captivity under the Philistines. Be that as it will, the thing is very curious, and it is plain by the impressions that it was made by a mould or stamp; so that doubtless there were many of the same made."

"I beg leave in the next place to observe, that London was encompassed with a wall in the time of Constantine the Great, and that part thereof adjoining to the postern near the Tower, built of stone and some layers of Roman brick, was of late within a few years destroyed and pulled down to make way for new houses, by Mr. Mount, a stationer, who liveth near the same. This wall ran directly through part of the Tower; so that one part thereof was in Middlesex, and the other within the liberty of the city. We need not doubt that William the Conqueror built about this ancient site of the Romans, on purpose to keep the city in awe, and it hath since been greatly increased by the kings of England, being formerly accounted one of the strongest castles in the kingdom.

"As for the ancient gates of the city, there were but three at first next the land: 1. Aldgate, or Oldgate, leading into the east part, as Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, &c. 2. Aldersgate, leading into the north parts. 3. Ledgate, now Ludgate, (that story of king Lud is fictitious, I am afraid) leading to the western roads of this kingdom.

"The Roman military way, as I before observed, came directly from the Tower in a straight line to Ludgate, and so turned up by the Gate . . . through a passage formerly called Bower Row, into a Street now called Gilt-spur Street, and afterwards through that place called the Wilderness, formerly

merly belonged to the Carthusians, directly pointing and leading into Old Street, and so to Old Ford, and from thence away to Waltham Stow or Stone.

“ The two other gate-ways led to the old military way, which we now call Old Street, being the most ancient street remaining about London. That highway which leads from Aldersgate to Islington, has been made some time since the Conquest, and, I believe, much about the same time that the ground was taken in for building the Carthusian monastery (now called the Charter House) by Sir Walter de Maney. Not that this society was alone made happy by so prudent a choice. For many of our ancient kings and nobility took delight in the situation of the old Roman buildings, which were very always fine and pleasant, the Romans being very circumspect in regard of their settlement, having always an eye to some river, spring, wood, &c. for the convenience of life, particularly in wholesome air. And this, no doubt, occasioned the old monks, knights-templars, and after them the knights of Saint John of Jerusalem, as also the friars, to settle in most of the Roman buildings, as well private as public; which thing, if duly considered, will be found to be a main reason, why we have so few remains of them.

“ No one can reasonably contradict what is here offered on behalf of the Romans, and of their sentiments being afterwards possessed and greedily sought after by such as succeeded them when they left the isle, if he does but consider that the Roman souldiers were, in a great measure, the founders of cities and towns, that a garrison of them were the bulwark of the Britains, and that wherever they settled, they erected such magnificent edifices, and such stupendous structures, that the reliques and ruins of them which remain at this time, oblige the spectators to admire the same, and common people are tempted to say, “ These Roman works were erected by giants.”

“ But the Romans did not employ themselves only in works of this nature. They were also the drainers of meers, and where the valleys were low, they cast up banks, which
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in some places are so fenced and paved with stone, that they seem beyond credit. For all the causeways of note at this time throughout the kingdom, were made by the old Romans, as may be seen in Cambden.

“ This gives me occasion to observe, that the Romans had large vacant places within this city, where their temples and other public buildings were erected, besides their private dwelling houses, which were all built by their legionary souldiers, who were chiefly mechanics, carpenters, smiths, joiners, &c. and many others of an inferior rank, such as potters, brickmakers, &c. and almost every other trade that is accounted necessary in building, or in cloathing the body, for defence against extremity both of cold and heat.

“ We may then conclude, that the Romans having been settled some length of time from their first landing to the reign of Nero, had sufficient leisure to build, as well as to intermarry with the daughters of the Britains, and that they were therefore become, in a manner, one people, and consequently that it was their interest to promote the good and welfare of this city, by magnificent buildings, &c. What form their private houses were built in, I am not able to determine, having not met with any description of them.

“ And thus we are come to the times of that illustrious British heroine Boadicia, relict of Prasutagus, king of the Icenii, a great and opulent prince, who at his death had left Nero his heir, hoping thereby to free his family from injustice. But the consequence proved different from what he intended. For she was by this the more exposed to the licentious humour of an all-powerful army. Upon which she confederates with the Trinobantes, and others not inured to servitude, and so they all unanimously agree together to resume their ancient liberty. Whereupon they first set upon the garrisons of the veteran soldiers, defeated the Ninth Legion, and put to the sword many thousand Romans and their associates that inhabited this city; after which they set the city on fire in several places, before Suetonius governor of the province could rally his scattered troops.

“ Thus

“ Thus this glorious city was reduced to an heap of rubbish, and continued a great while in a desolate condition, though many of the buildings were at length repaired, and there is no doubt but if the Romans had continued amongst us, they would have restored it to its former beauty, splendor, and magnificence. But when they deserted the isle, the Saxons came in, and it is very well known that they were not famous for architecture. Indeed, when the Normans settled amongst us, building with stone began to revive, and the city thereupon was continually adorned by the care not only of our kings and princes, but of other great and illustrious personages; but then what they did for it was sometimes suddenly effaced and destroyed by fire, which hath frequently happened in this great city, partly by accident, and partly by design, especially when a furious enemy hath appeared against it.

“ How much this city hath been raised may be supposed from a pavement found fifteen foot deep in Cheapside, above an hundred years since. But how much more hath it been advanced since the year 1666?

“ Having thus far endeavoured to give a succinct account of London as it was in the time of the Romans, from my own observation, (although far short of what we may reasonably conclude had been done by Leland,) I shall next take notice of some ancient customs, which had their original from the Romans.

“ First then, I have often thought, and am now fully persuaded, that the planting of vines in the adjacent parts about this city, was first of all began by the Romans, an industrious people, and famous for their skill in agriculture and gardening, as may appear from the *rei agrariæ scriptores*, as well as from Pliny, and other authors. We had a vineyard in East Smithfield, another in Hatton Garden, (which at this time is called Vine Street) and a third in Saint Giles's, in the Fields. Many places in the country bear the name of the Vineyard to this day, especially in the ancient monasteries, as Canterbury, Ely, Abbington, &c. which were left as such by the Romans. And though some may object that

that several places which bear this name are certainly of a later date than the Roman times, yet I desire them to consider that what I have here advanced, is not to be understood of them either as cities or towns of distinction, but only as they were places where the Romans, during their residence here, exercised themselves in husbandry, and were willing that they should remain to posterity as tokens of their skill and diligence in affairs of this nature.

“ To this give me leave to add our prize-fighting, which I can ascribe to nothing else but the same sort of exercise practised by the Roman gladiators. Nay, our bull and bear-baiting are the remains of the same people, as our May-games, mumming, morrice-dancing, &c. which happened much about the same time of the year, as they do now amongst us.

“ Master of the ruff-game is an office still in being, and is nothing but the same that was in high esteem amongst the Romans. As to the brothel-houses formerly in Southwark, we find a statute as old as the reign of Edward III. for their toleration, (and I have seen statutes in their behalf amongst collections, transcribed from the very book formerly made use of by Stow,) and it is probable that they were first established by the Romans, (for the Bull and Bear-garden in that place is but of late settlement,) who had also a playhouse on that side, and had their abode very much in Southwark, which was then a place of fortification, not to insist upon many other antient ceremonies and customs practised by the old heathens; to recite and reckon up these would be too tedious, and extend this discourse beyond what I first proposed.”

The various remains of Roman grandeur which have at several times been discovered in London, form a necessary appendage to this portion of its antient history.

An aqueduct, and several vessels for sacred and domestic uses, &c. were found in digging for the foundation of the church of St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street, in 1716; these remains induced Dr. Harwood to imagine that here not only a considerable pottery, but a temple of Concord, must

have stood, described by Roman historians in their account of Trinobantum. Such vast quantities of broken pottery abounded here, that many cart loads were carried away with the rubbish to mend the roads about St. George's Fields. An antient Well which had been choaked up for ages, was also restored to its wonted use, and now supplies the pump under the church.

In 1718, the workmen in pulling down a wall at Bridewell Hospital, discovered a gold enamelled ring, having the resemblance of the Crucifixion; the inscription in Arabic; this ring was supposed to be one thousand five hundred years old.

London Stone, in Cannon Street, was undoubtedly a Roman milliary of the same kind as that in the Forum at Rome, where all the ways met in a point, and whence they were measured*. We will not go so far as some of our antiquaries, who have asserted that this was an altar of worship among the Britons.

In 1777, a silver ingot was discovered, among many gold coins, in digging the old foundations of the Ordnance Office, in the Tower; the ingot was inscribed, "Ex Officio Honorii;" and the coins were of that emperor and Arcadius. This circumstance, more than all others, seems to confirm the notion, that the Tower was not only a Roman fort; but also a mint and treasury.

The Society of Antiquaries published an account of various antiquities discovered in digging a sewer in Lombard Street and Birchin Lane, in 1786.

And in December 1803, a very beautiful Mosaic pavement was accidentally discovered by some workmen employed to search for the sewer, immediately before the eastern column of the portico of the East India house, in Leadenhall Street.

"This beautiful specimen of Roman workmanship, exhibits the ornamented centre (eleven feet square) of the floor of an

* *Milliarium aureum* fuit columna in capite fori Romani, sub Saturni æde, prope arcum Septimii, in qua omnes Italiæ viæ incisæ finerunt, et a qua ad singulas portas mensuræ regionum currerunt. *Plin.* lib. iii. cap. 5.

apartment of uncertain dimensions, which lay at a depth of nine feet six inches from the present level of the carriage-way pavement; the head of the principal figure pointing nearly to the south, and its foot to the north.

“ The pavement did not exceed half an inch in thickness, and was bedded in a layer of brick-dust and lime of about an inch; beneath which was a thick stratum of loam, the precise depth whereof could not be ascertained.

“ The whole eastern side had been some time before cut away to make room for a sewer; but, little doubt could exist of the two borders having been continued round the square, two-thirds of which remained perfect.

“ Nothing worth notice occurred in taking up the residue, except the fragment of an urn; which, together with a jaw-bone, and some finger bones, was found under the western angle.

“ The surrounding red margin consisted of coarse red tessellæ, an inch square, and was traced to the extent of five feet six inches on the north-west side, but could not be followed further, on account of the difficulty and danger of breaking-up the street; in opening the ground, however, on the opposite side of the way, foundations of Kentish rag-stone and Roman brick appeared at nearly the same depth, which probably were those of the building to which this pavement belonged. The room could not have been less than twenty-two feet square; but, in all probability, was considerably larger.

“ In this beautiful specimen of Roman Mosaic, the drawing, colouring, and shadows, are all effected with considerable skill and ingenuity, by the use of about twenty separate tints, composed of tessellæ of different materials, the major part of which are baked earths; but the more brilliant colours of green and purple, which form the drapery, are glass.

“ These tessellæ are of different sizes and figures, adapted to the situations they occupy in the design. They are placed in rows either strait or curved as occasion demanded, each tessella presenting to those around it a flat side; the inter-

stices of mortar being thus very narrow, and the bearing of the pieces against each other uniform; the work in general possessed much strength, and was very probably, when uninjured by damp, nearly as firm to the foot as solid stone.

"The tessellæ used in forming the ornamented borders, are in general somewhat larger than those in the figures, being cubes of half an inch.

"The figure of the god Bacchus is represented reclining on the back of a tiger. The same device, with some small variations, was discovered in 1711-12, on a pavement at Stunsfield, two miles north-west of Woodstock, in Oxfordshire."

This description is from the pen of Mr. Fisher, of the East India house, who has published a very large fac simile of the pavement, and who has kindly permitted the insertion of the preceding extract.

The sketch for Mr. Fisher's engraving was first made, with permission of C. Wilkins, Esquire, the honourable East India company's librarian, previous to the removal of any part of the original pavement, and perfected after the disjointed fragments were deposited in the company's library; in which place these remains, taken up at the company's expence, through the liberality of the honourable Court of Directors, are now preserved, and are the first considerable specimen of Roman Mosaic found within this city which has not been either destroyed, or covered up as soon as opened.

Our account of Roman London, and its remains, would be imperfect, were not the boundaries of its Wall concisely traced.

This wall commenced at the Tower of London, eastwardly, and passed between Poor Jewry Lane and the Vineyard to Aldgate, in which extent, between Wall's Court, and Black Horse Alley, was a bastion, and another opposite Weeden's Rents, a distance of eighty-two perches. From Aldgate, the wall formed a curve between Shoemaker Row, Bevis Marks, Camomile Street, and Houndsditch, fenced with three bastions, one opposite Harrow Alley, a second opposite Bowle Court, and a third between Hand Alley and Castle Yard, and abutted at Bishopsgate, a distance of eighty-six perches. Thence taking a westerly direction
through

through Bishopgate Church Yard, it continued its course behind Wormwood Street and Allhallows Church, the back of Bethlehem Hospital, where part of it is still standing, till it reached Moorgate, at the end of Coleman Street; continuing in a straight direction, it abutted at Cripplegate, at the distance of one hundred and sixty-two perches. Hence it continued westernly, along the back of Hart Street, and the back of Cripplegate Church Yard, where, opposite Lamb's Chapel Court, was another bastion. From this place, the wall took a southernly direction, between Castle Street, and Monkwell Street, in which small distance were no less than three bastions at the back of Barber-Surgeon's Hall: We pursue its course at the back of Noble Street, till we come to Dolphin Court, opposite Oat Lane, where another bastion was erected; it then again proceeded westernly to Aldersgate, at the distance from Cripplegate, of seventy-five perches. Keeping along the back of St. Botolph's Church Yard, it continued by the back of Christ's Hospital, and the New Compter, where it again formed a curve to the south to Newgate, in which space were two bastions. The distance from Aldersgate to Newgate sixty-six perches. Keeping at the back of the present prison, the wall passed the ends of the College of Physicians, Warwick Square, the Oxford Arms Inn, Stationer's Hall, and the London Coffee House, Ludgate Hill, where it abutted at Ludgate, the distance being forty-two perches. From Ludgate, it continued by Cock Court, to New Bridge Street, where remains of it are at present very perceptible, whence it proceeded along the Fleet Ditch to the east side of Chatham Square, and to the Thames, at the distance of one hundred and thirty-perches, making a total of two miles and six hundred and eight feet in circuit.

It may not be irrelevant to our subject in this place to remark, that beside the other bastions and gates with which this wall was fortified, it appears the extremities were particularly guarded at one end by the Tower of London, and at the other by a large and magnificent tower near the monastery

nastery of the Black Friars, which was said to be "fit for the reception of a king."

An idea of what London might have been whilst under the Roman government, is given by the learned Dr. Stukely, in one of the plates of his Itinerary; but considering the space of the ancient city within the walls, from the Tower to Bride-well Dock, we are inclined to believe, that of whatever form the British town may have been, the Romans, on taking possession, modelled their superstructure as nearly as possible, after that of their Imperial city, in the resemblance of a horse-shoe. We shall conclude this period of our history, by a comparison of the beauties of ancient Rome and modern London.

During the government of the emperors, Rome was incomparable in the magnificence and number of its public buildings; for it was an emulation of these potentates to signalize themselves by the erection of some edifice which might perpetuate their memory. This had not been the case whilst Rome was under a republican government; for the seven great *Cloaca*, or sewers, called by Pliny and Strabo, *operum omnium maximum*, were attributed to the generosity of Tarquinius Priscus; the foundation of the Capitol was ascribed to the great law-giver Numa; and the Pantheon erected during the consulate of Agrippa, son-in-law of Augustus.

The improvement of this city in noble structures, during the space of two hundred years after the Imperial government, was almost incredible; this continued till the seat of empire was fixed at Byzantium, now Constantinople. But it was impossible for ancient Rome to form a comparison with London; considering its narrow and crooked streets, the wooden houses, only one story high*, its mounts and little hills,

* Authors are very much disagreed concerning the height of the houses in ancient Rome. Donatus and Publius Victor write that there were not above forty-six thousand houses, and those not above one story high, and that the inhabitants lodged upon the ground floors. Lipsius,
on

hills, and the meanness of the Tyber, a small filthy and unhealthy river, compared with the limpid gentle stream of the Thames.

Its situation must be unhealthy, as the greatest part of the city stood in a bottom, and was subject to violent inundations, which were equally destructive to houses and temples. Its position also in a barren uneven ground, with fields to the southward, and in a gross air, must have been very obnoxious; and the greatest admirers of Rome*, confess that the city was surrounded by marshes.

London, on the contrary, enjoys a good air, with a fine prospect on all sides; the ground upon which it stands, has a double ascent. Its noble river, a fine open country, full of meadows, gardens, trees, and houses, yielding great variety of delightful objects, its delicate fields, and meadows

on the other hand, asserts, that the houses of the common people might be generally about seventy feet high, and before the reign of Augustus, they were higher, but that he, and afterwards Nero, compelled the citizens to reduce them to the former standard of seventy feet. Lipsius concludes from this and other circumstances, that Rome could not contain less than **FOURTEEN MILLIONS OF INHABITANTS!**

It appears, however, very extraordinary, that in contradiction to Lipsius, Vossius, and others, who have made such **EXTRAVAGANT** calculations, that were the houses so high as they pretend, by being placed in the miserable narrow streets, or rather narrow allies, with which Rome abounded, they must have been, not only very dark, but extremely unhealthy. Other authors observe, that the *Septizonium Severi*, was esteemed a wonder, on account of its height of seven stories; had the common houses been so high as pretended, the wonder must have ceased.

That there might be some houses of three, four, or five stories high, is not denied; but these must have been peculiar to public structures, and the houses of the nobility; for it is certain that the common dwellings were very low, and inconvenient. We suppose buildings of the former sort in the improved state of the Roman empire, to be constructed in Britain, on their first settlement here, as noticed in p. 11 and 30 of our work. See *Montfaucon's Antiquities Explained*, &c.

* *Posita in solo sterili, et partim in montibus, partim in vallibus campisque subjectis, austro objecta et cœli aliquanto graviora.* *Fabricius*, p. 256.

of

of the finest verdure, with abundance of large and neat
lages, at a small distance, and the pleasant walks w
which it is surrounded, afford the comfort of a sweet and
tritious air, seldom to be equalled. The beauties of
Rome, therefore, collectively, were not comparable to
noble aspect of innumerable ships and boats constantly
ing on the Thames, such a prospect never was in the po
of Rome to afford, which, at the same time, convey to
mind a sense of solid and lasting magnificence, whilst
fine structures of Rome, though probably more expensi
were inconvenient and uscless.

Though the magnificence of the structures of Rome
proverbial, it is much doubted whether they exceeded St
Paul's cathedral; they certainly were not so costly; hav
been raised by dint of the irksome labour of slavery.

The streets and cross-ways of London form another bea
exceeding any of old Rome. These are generally of con
derable length and breadth, in a straight line, especia
those that have been erected since the Great Fire in 1666.

The streets of Rome are noticed as full of passenge
but these were chiefly of hungry slaves; the women not
ing permitted to appear from home. What a contrast
London! her streets are crouded with unrestrained beau
and the meanest of her tradesmen are better fed and clothed
than the antient Roman knights and senators.

Let us enquire into the marketable luxuries of the two
perial cities. We shall find that the frugal feasts of the
mans, bear no comparison with the most moderate Lond
tradesman's table; and when the pap, called *Cibaria leg*
the small fish, and the pork, which were Roman extra
gances, are put in competition with the viands daily c
sumed by London citizens, setting aside all public banquet
the preference must be obvious. The market places of Ro
were, consequently, neither so numerous or so well stocked
as those of the British metropolis. The wants of the Rom
being very soon supplied.

London abounds with another species of luxury unkno
to Rome; her spacious and rich shops, stocked with all su

of foreign and domestic merchandize. The Romans of old wore only coarse woollen cloth; nor were the senators distinguished but by wearing garments of that which was milled*.

The public and private bagnios of the Romans, their greatest diversion, were mere matters of convenience, on account of the excessive heat, and scanty use of linen. Does this bear any comparison with the coffee-houses and taverns, &c. which grace every quarter of London? the more expensive amusements afforded by théâtres and various exhibitions of rational entertainment, are also very dissimilar to the contests of gladiators, wild beasts, and other brutal spectacles, which often disgraced the Roman nobility.

When, therefore, we compare the gloomy aspect of ancient Rome, with the busy, lively scenes which distinguish London, we wonder at the notion which the Roman citizens indulged, in denominating their city *Roma Æterna*, the *Mistress of the World*, paying adoration, and dedicating a temple to it, as though it were a deity! Surely, a very material preference must be claimed by our metropolis, the bravery and wealth of whose citizens are adequate to purchase of empires, when it is known that the qualification of a Roman senator was an estate of thirty thousand crowns, and for a knight an estate to the value of twelve thousand crowns or three thousand pounds sterling, as is confirmed by Lipsius, Fabricius, &c.

But the conclusive preference, of which London can truly boast is, that the attributes of commerce, dispensed by the hand of rational liberty, diffuse plenty, luxury, the arts, science, and literature, under a most perfect civic government, where no badge of slavery is known—where the common carrier of merchandize possesses equal privileges with

* Quod si nuptiæ, festivitas, aut lætius convivium esset, pro magno pauci pisciculi, et porcina aliquot pondo. Similis in vestibus frugalitas, et omnium ditium pauperumque e lana, atque ea nativi et albidii coloris, nisi quod ditiorum splendentes paulo magis et nitidæ a fullonia arte essent. Nam sericum, et ipsa lintea sero innotuerunt, et timide etiam jam usum paucorum venerunt. *Lipsii Roma Illustrata*, p. 208.

the superiors of magistracy—where justice is equally poised—and where mutual considerations consolidate a vast body of political perfection, which the wisdom of ages has rendered indissoluble.

—————This ancient city,
How wanton sits she, amidst nature's smiles !
Nor from her highest turrets has to view
But golden landscapes and luxuriant scenes,
A waste of wealth, the store-house of the world !
Here fruitful vales far stretching fly the sight,
There sails unnumbered whiten all the stream,
While from the banks full twenty thousand cities
Survey their pride, and see their gilded towers
Float on the waves, and break against the shore

—————Various nations meet
As in a sea, yet not confined in space
But streaming freely through the spacious streets,
Which sends forth millions at each brazen gate.

Young.

LONDON, DURING THE DOMINION OF THE SAXONS AND
DANES, TO THE DESCENT OF WILLIAM I.

THE account of sanguinary and unremitting contention between the Britons and the cruel hordes of northern savages, with which they were oppressed for nearly one hundred and fifty years, is scarcely worthy of record in the annals of progressive civilization ; except to fill up the chasm that introduces circumstances favourable to the future pre-eminence of our metropolis ; we pass, therefore, the more disagreeable subject of heathen devastation, fire, and bloodshed, and turn our eyes to the more benign prospect of Christianity.

To religion then, even corrupted as the anarchy of the times had reduced it, we are again beholden for the returning light which history throws upon the city. The benevolent Pope Gregory the Great, considering the importance of converting to the Christian faith, a people whom he had

impressively denominated *Angeli**, in A. D. 597. sent Augustine, a pious and eloquent monk, and forty of his own order, to preach the Gospel in Britain; one of these missionaries, named Miletus, was consigned to the ecclesiastical government of London, and conducted himself with so much wisdom and moderation, that his converts were numerous and respectable; and he was enabled to erect a cathedral on the ruins of a heathen temple, which he dedicated to St. Paul. At this time, the quarter which the city of Westminster now occupies, was a small island, surrounded by a morass, and denominated *Thorney*, where a Roman temple dedicated to Apollo had stood; but upon the rapid advance of the Christian doctrines, in 612, Sebert, king of the East Saxons, was induced to erect another Christian church, which he dedicated to St. Peter. Hence London and its neighbour again resumed a degree of consequence; and was enabled to dispute the right of ecclesiastical, as well as civil authority, with Canterbury and York, which ultimately commerce decided in her favour, with respect to the latter consideration.

The city of London, even at this early age, was celebrated for its commerce. It is called by the venerable Bede, "London, a mart town of many nations, which repaired hither by sea and land." However, the city was not yet dignified with the title of Metropolis, that distinction having been applied to Canterbury, the residence of Ethelbert, king of Kent, to whom the East Saxons were vassals, (as were all the Saxon nations south of the river Humber) and Sebert, their king, his feudatory. Nor indeed did London arrive at the grandeur of either Canterbury, or York, till after a period of three hundred years.

* Some youths, as was then the custom, being exposed in the Forum at Rome as slaves; among others who came to view them was the Pope. The pontiff, struck with their figure and deportment, enquired their country, and, on being informed that they were *Angli*, exclaimed, "rather *Angeli*!" and finding them uninstructed heathens, formed the pious resolution of converting the country to Christianity; which he happily accomplished by means of Saint Augustine, and forty of his brethren.

In 658, commerce, the source of wealth to the city was also a source of woe; the dreadful scourge of pestilence, ravaged and depopulated her streets, To this succeeds a solemn blank in her history; which is only renewed to our notice in 764 by that most lamentable of all catastrophes, Fire; an evil which London was doomed to feel on many mournful occasions. At this period the houses were chiefly of wood and other combustible materials; added to which, the streets and lanes were so very narrow, that we are not to wonder that a neglected spark was easily roused to a fatal conflagration.

At the establishment of the Heptarchy, under the dominion of the brave and prudent Egbert, A. D. 827, London was appointed to be the royal residence, and here a Wittenagemot, or Parliament was summoned in A. D. 833; and it can scarcely be supposed that so wise a monarch as Egbert, when he commanded fortifications to be made at every seaport should neglect the place which he had made his chief residence; in all probability he either added to the number of towers, or built some additional works on the city walls, where the Tower of London, at the south-east corner of the wall commands the river and the bridge*. But strong and merciless invaders were soon to make the foundations of the island tremble to their base; London was among the unfortunate to feel the most barbarous and unrelenting outrages; and at length to be reduced to a state of the most grievous and humiliating servitude to the savage Danes. In 852, after having previously pillaged various other quarters of the kingdom, and burnt Canterbury, they forced their way to London, which they first plundered and then reduced to ashes.

But the great Alfred, to whom, even at this day, the whole realm is indebted for all the privileges which a great an enlightened, and a cultivated mind could suggest, having shaken off the Danish yoke, and restored the kingdom to tranquillity and order, gave directions for rebuilding the desolated cities. London in particular claimed his attention, and under such protection she soon arose more glorious from

* Entick's London, i. 37.

her fall ; but, as if she were doomed to suffer a succession of disastrous events, an accidental fire, in 893, again laid her glory in the dust*.

So far, however, had she recovered her greatness and opulence under so excellent a monarch, that we find in 895, when a party of Danish robbers, taking advantage of Alfred's

* Alfred, in his regulations of the common-wealth, divided the kingdom into *counties*, the counties into *hundreds*, and the hundreds into *tythings*, that every man might be more under the notice and jurisdiction of the government, and more certainly answerable to the law for any misbehaviour. This regulation being of so great utility to the state and government of the nation, we can scarce doubt, but that this wise legislator provided some equivalent provision to answer the same purposes in the great and opulent metropolis of the kingdom. And as we hitherto meet with no division of the city of London, there is great reason to think that so large a body of people, not divided into hundreds and tythings, were then brought under the regulation of *wards* and *precincts*, for the well ordering and governing the city. And as this king constituted the office of *sheriffs* the nature of the office made it necessary to have it also in London. So that here we have the glimmering of the order of magistrates afterwards settled in the city of London, in the person of the *portreeve* or *portgrave*, or governor of the city, as supreme magistrate ; in the sheriff, and in the subordinate magistrates, by what name soever then distinguished, which being at the head of each ward and precinct, were analagous to the titles of aldermen and common council men.

Alfred did not confine his talent in ship-building to men of war only ; he likewise improved the invention for mercantile shipping, and contrived merchantmen that would both sail better, and carry larger burthens than in former times, to the great increase of foreign trade, and the benefit of the city of London and his royal revenue ; without which it had been impossible for him to maintain his fleet, and to erect so many monuments of piety and learning.

This king, having settled affairs of greater importance after the most prudent manner, thought one thing, both necessary in itself, and ornamental to the city of London and to the whole nation, should not be neglected ; which was to spirit up the English to an emulation in building their houses, for the future, in a stronger manuer than they had hitherto done. At that time their houses were mostly of wood ; a house built with any other materials was looked upon as a sort of wonder. But Alfred having began to raise his palaces with stone and brick, the opulent Londoners, and the resident nobility in and about London copied the example : though it did not come into general use till some ages after. *Entick's London*, i. 45 et. seq.

absence

absence, had encamped at Beamflete, and ventured out on plundering expeditions, under the conduct of Hastings, their general, the garrison of London apprized of the circumstance, and being joined by a body of gallant citizens, who were inflamed against the destroyers of their city, marched out with the utmost secrecy, came upon the enemy's strongly fortified camp by surprize, cut the guard to pieces, made a great number of prisoners and "spoiled their spoilers!" Among the prisoners were Hastings's wife and two sons.

The loyalty of a patriot city must have been highly gratifying to a beneficent king; and we find his exertions for the public welfare highly according with his generous feelings; for when the Danish marauders had sailed up the Lea to Ware, between which and Hertford they had strongly fortified themselves, Alfred, at the head of his grateful and powerful citizens, took the field in 896, and boldly attacked the enemy in their intrenchments. Unappalled by the check which they received, they forced the Danes to decamp, by cutting off their supplies, diverted the course of the river and diminished its depth. The Danes finding their ships rendered useless, and themselves threatened with famine, hastily broke up their camp, and left it as well as their stranded shipping a prey to the Londoners and their auxiliaries, who immediately demolished the fortifications, and, by restoring the river to its accustomed channel easily towed the most valuable of the piratical vessels and stores to London; the rest they necessarily destroyed. Fragments of this spoil, it is said, have recently been found at Stanstead. A very observable circumstance occurs in this part of our subject, the spot then occupied by the enemies of the country, and which spread such an alarm to the city, is now the source of one of her principal comforts—the *New River* here has its spring.

The many heroic acts in which the citizens of London were principally engaged form part of a very dignified history; but as they are very honourably detailed in works of greater bulk than the limits we have prescribed, we pass them over and speak more immediately of civic improvements.

A brilliant æra of glory and prosperity seems to have been the blessing of the capital during the reign of Athelstan, and we find it in A. D. 939 receiving the distinguished privilege of coinage. This monarch resided in the heart of London, in a place which still retains his name: for from Athelstan or Adlestan, the name of Addle Street is taken, and it is noticed in an ancient record as King Addle Street. This prince is also said to have founded the neighbouring church of St. Alban, Wood Street. Edmund I. the brother and successor of Athelstan convoked a Wittenagemot in London, A. D. 945, for the settlement of ecclesiastical affairs*.

In 958, the church which Sebert had erected, and which had been destroyed by the Danes, was, at the instance of Dunstan, bishop of London, rebuilt by Edgar the Peaceable, who also erected it into a monastic establishment. But London was not exempted from calamity; the Cathedral of St. Paul was destroyed by fire in A. D. 961, whilst a malignant fever carried off a prodigious number of the inhabitants.

The zenith of Saxon London seems at this period to have passed its meridian; the inglorious reign of Ethelred II. who had found his way to the throne by means of the murder of his brother was peculiarly unfortunate to the city. In the fourth year of his reign it was again almost intirely consumed by fire, and had scarcely recovered from this desolation when another Danish invasion threatened the whole country. After various pusillanimous means to stem the

* "This monarch gave to the cathedral Church of St Paul, London, the manor and lordship of Cadington Major, now called Astonbury in Bedfordshire, together with the manor of Sandon in Hertfordshire. The prebendary of *Cadington-minor* in the same cathedral, which bears the name of the manor or farm of *Provender* in Bedfordshire, was part of the donation of Cadington, given by the same king. About the same time when stone buildings began to be encouraged, we may date the foundation of the parochial church of Allhallows Staining, otherwise stane or stone-church, to distinguish it from other churches of the same name in the city, which were built in those days of timber; *stane* in the Saxon tongue signifying *stone*." Etick. i. 48.

violence and rapacity of the invaders had proved ineffectual Ethelred awoke from his timid indolence, and in a general council of the principal persons of the kingdom, it was resolved to collect the whole naval force of the country to the port of London, and either give battle to the enemy or block them up in the harbours which they had occupied; but the treachery of Elfric duke of Mercia, rendered this wise and vigorous measure abortive; for he not only informed the Danes of these proceedings, but traiterously joined them against his country.

The golden harvests which the northern pirates had reaped from the English spoils were so vast and frequent, that a more important predatory invasion was suggested by Swein their king, assisted by the king of Norway; these sovereigns entered the Humber with a numerous fleet and army, and ravaged the country on both sides of that river. Encouraged by success, they, in 994, again put to sea, boldly advanced up the Thames and invested London, by such means probably to secure the conquest of the whole kingdom. But to the valour of her own undaunted citizens, to their unshaken loyalty, did London, at this important crisis, owe her preservation. By the paternal care of the great Alfred, the city had been fortified on every side; and his foresight was of essential service to her on the present occasion; for these walls secured her buildings, and were bravely defended by her intrepid sons. The Danes were continually repelled with loss, and obliged to raise the siege. Had Ethelred exerted any thing like energy, in assistance to his faithful citizens at this time, the Danes might have been totally driven to their own inhospitable shores discomfited and dismayed; but on the contrary, he had recourse to his usual wretched expedient of purchasing respite, and ultimately imposed upon his devoted dominions the odious tax called *Danegelt*, of which London bore a very large proportion; it was not repealed till the reign of Henry II*.

The

* As we have certain information respecting, the nature, quantity, and proportional assessments of this ancient tax, it may be acceptable to detail a few

The horrid massacre of the Danes, authorized by the mandate of the cowardly and pitiful Ethelred, in cold blood, composes so affecting a picture, that even at this remote period we contemplate it with painful emotions; we therefore avoid, as much as possible, exhibiting such a scene of horror, as well as to relate the guilty share which the deluded citizens took in the dreadful butchery.

But the ferocious denunciation which followed, when the news reached the Danish court, and the vengeance by which it was accompanied, is only to be compared with the distressed state of the English at this time: oppressed with every species of national calamity, governed by a weak and irresolute prince, her bowels alternately torn by the rage of a foreign enemy or a domestic traitor, she sustained a series of complicated misery for ten years; till Ethelred, after having suffered his realm to be desolated by the revengeful retalia-

a few of the leading particulars. Even then the king could not impose and levy it by a mere act of authority: the consent of the Wittenagemot, or great council, was first obtained. The original imposition was one Saxon shilling on each hide of land in the kingdom. As the whole was computed to be two hundred and forty three thousand six hundred hides, the produce of the tax, at one shilling, was twelve thousand one hundred and eighty Saxon pounds, equal in quantity of silver to about 36,540*l.* sterling; and equivalent in efficiency to near 400,000*l.* according to the present value of money. It was successively raised from one up to seven shillings the hide of land. While the Danish visits were annually repeated, the Saxon sovereign of England could put little into his coffers of the surplus of the tax, as the whole, and sometimes more, was expended in fighting or bribing the invaders. But when the government of the country became Danish, Danegelt became one of the principal sources of revenue to the crown. It was raised so high, and levied so rigorously by Canute, A. D. 1018, as to produce the enormous sum of 71,000*l.* Saxon, besides 11,000*l.* the assessment at which the city of London was rated. Those who had money to pay this intolerable imposition were compelled to it; and such as had none, were subjected to the confiscation of lands and possessions. Houses in towns were assessed to the tax, and a house of such a value, or rent, paid the same rent as a hide of land. From the sum levied in London, some judgment may be formed of its size and population at this period. The tax rose and fell according to the exigencies of government, or rather according to the rapacity or generosity of the reigning prince. It was at length wholly remitted, about seventy years after the Norman Conquest. *Henry's History of Great Britain.*

tion of the Danes, retired to Normandy, A. D. 1013, leaving his capital city and distressed country to the insatiate barbarity of the conquerors. London thus deserted, was compelled to open her portals to her bitterest enemies, and, with her, England submitted to the Danish yoke. At this time the city presented an alluring bait to a voracious enemy; she had become a place of considerable strength; it is not therefore surprising that in the distracted state of the country, her importance rendered her peculiar defence of the utmost consequence; her own citizens, however, were not only sufficient for her protection, but, under the command of the gallant prince Edmund, assisted to make a last effort to revive the expiring liberty of the kingdom, by collecting a force, which, under his conduct, would have turned the scale against the victorious Canute; the imbecility of the father, in this instance as well as many others, counteracted the diligence and address of the son. He suddenly retired within the walls, where the mortified prince was soon compelled to join him with the remainder of his dispersed forces. Forlorn to himself, and unhappy to his country, Ethelred soon expired in the metropolis, A. D. 1016, leaving his family and country in the most desperate situation. He was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral.

The brave Edmund Ironside, was immediately crowned in London *, amidst the acclamations of the patriotic and loyal citizens, and his courage and ability, though his rival Canute had been crowned at Southampton, soon taught that monarch to experience that the golden prize was not easily to be obtained; for Edmund immediately on his accession marched into the western provinces to consolidate the scattered remains of his royal inheritance. In his absence Canute laid siege to the capital, which by its intrepidity baffled all his endeavours to reduce it, till Edmund with the force he had collected flew to its relief. The year 1016 is marked in crimson characters: thrice in this year was London besieged

* This is the first coronation ceremony recorded to have been performed in the metropolis.

by the assaults of Canute *, and as often relieved by the bravery of her native prince. But the incredible effusion of blood on these and other occasions, induced the rivals to a compromise of dominion, and this city, as the capital of Mercia, was doomed to the controul of Canute. Edmund was soon after murdered by means of his traiterous relation, Edric Streon, who was amply recompenced for his treasons by Canute; that sovereign, now sole monarch, ordering him to be decapitated, and his body to be thrown into the Thames.

When Canute arrived at the plenitude of his power, the citizens felt the weight of his resentment. The Danegelt was increased from one shilling to seven shillings for every hide of land throughout the kingdom; and to mark the royal displeasure against London for her attachment to her native prince, the citizens were assessed a full seventh part of the imposition on the whole kingdom. A convincing proof, as well of the tyrannic disposition of her Danish ruler, as of her own increased opulence.

It is but justice to add, that Canute afterwards relaxed his severity, and endeavoured to reconcile the English to his government by his justice and impartiality; and the city was obliged to him for the extension of her foreign commerce. The metropolis had at this time risen to a very high degree of distinction in the arts of war and peace. But foreign commerce was to be the source of her greatness; and even during the calamitous reign of Ethelred, the trade of London and of the whole country engaged one of the principal attentions of government. We find therefore in the Saxon Chronicle, that

* In one of those sieges, Canute, it is said, intending to attack the city on the side of the river, found his advances obstructed by the bridge over the Thames, which was strongly fortified and well defended. This is the first mention of a bridge, or by whom or when constructed. Disappointed of bringing his ships to bear a part in the siege, he diverted the course of the Thames by a trench, through the marshes on the Surry side, by which he towed round his vessels to act against the city he had thus surrounded. But the bravery of the citizens sustained his assaults till relieved by their champion, king Edmund. *William of Malmesbury—Stow's Survey, &c.*

in consequence of the demand which obliged every proprietor of three hundred and ten hides of land to furnish a ship for the public service, the amount of ships provided, at this early period of our naval history, was nearly eight hundred; it cannot then be surprising, that so discerning a monarch as Canute, when his irascibility had subsided, should turn his mind towards cultivating a commercial intercourse, by which the success and security of his subjects might be ensured. This principle induced him to maintain all the laws which had been already enacted for the preservation of mercantile property wrecked on the English coast, as well as to settle the rates of the customs payable at the wharf of Belinsgate. To shew also of what importance an English trade was considered by foreign powers, a company of German merchants was settled in London. The members of this body were denominated "The Emperor's Men," and they annually paid the king as an acknowledgment of his protection, two pieces of grey cloth, and one of brown; ten pounds of pepper; five pairs of gloves, and two casks of wine.

William of Malmsbury, l. ii. c. 11. has preserved a curious document of the care which Canute took of the temporal interests of his subjects, whilst he was on a pilgrimage to Rome. Writing to those in England to whom he had committed the administration of justice in his absence, he adds: "I have conversed with the pope, the emperor, and all the princes whom I found here, respecting the grievances imposed on my subjects, whether English or Danes, on visiting their several states; and have insisted, that in future they shall be treated more favourably, and exempted from the tolls, and exactions of various kinds, with which they have been hitherto harassed. The emperor, king Rodolphus, and the other sovereigns, have accordingly listened to my remonstrances, and have assured me, that henceforth no subject of mine, whether merchant or pilgrim, passing through their territories, shall meet with any obstruction, or be made liable to the payment of any impost whatever."

Thus, under the protection of so powerful, so spirited, and so wise a king as Canute, the trade of England flourish-
ed

ed beyond all former example, and the merchants of London acquired a weight and influence in the scale of commerce, as well as in the national councils of their country, hitherto unknown; the event which had nearly extinguished the antient royal house, and the nobility, became highly beneficial to the community, by procuring domestic peace; by opening the advancement of traffic; and by establishing respectable connexions with foreign powers. But just as Canute began to enjoy the fruit of the benefits he had thus secured, he departed this life at Shaftesbury, Nov. 12, 1035, leaving behind him the character of a great prince.

His son Harold, surnamed Harefoot, unlike his father in any good quality, having imposed himself upon the nobility, in preference to his brother Hardicanute, the son of Emma, Ethelred's widow, obtained the sanction of the Wittenagemot, which was composed of the Thanes, among which sat the merchants, who on account of their occupation were denominated the *Seamen* of London*.

We pass the turbulent reigns of this monarch and his successor Hardicanute; the first criminally ambitious; the second a ferocious, revengeful drunkard; whose actions had rendered their names so odious, that it reflected in the eyes of the English, a detestation of the Danish character; they therefore resolved to restore the family of their native sovereigns, in the person of Edward the Confessor; but they mistook their aim; for instead of being governed by a monarch, they had crowned a whining monk, who suffered his kingdom to go to destruction whilst he sought his salvation by building and endowing churches. He re-edified the sacred pile of St. Peter, Westminster; restored it to a style of magnificence, with a munificent endowment; and bestowed on it all the privileges which papal decrees could enforce. His death happened Jan. 5, 1066. and he was interred in his

* The comparative importance of commerce was so great, even in these times of ignorance, that by a law of Athelstan, a merchant who had made three foreign voyages on his own bottom, became entitled to the quality and privileges of a Thane, or nobleman; the pre-eminent title, *Seamen of London*, above mentioned, is thus accounted for.

new finished Abbey, which at present serves "as the grand receptacle of the remains of departed worth—the scene of pride at coronations, and of humility at interments *!"

It appears that at this period, no city, except London and Westminster, had ten thousand inhabitants. York, the largest, after those already mentioned, contained only one thousand four hundred and eighteen houses and of these five hundred and forty were uninhabited; and though the seat of an archbishop and the capital of a vast province, its population amounted only to about seven thousand souls. Hackney at present contains more than three times that number. Singularly as it may appear to our readers, it is extremely probable that the whole population of England, during this dismal period, did very little exceed the number of inhabitants now residing in the cities and neighbouring villages which form our vast metropolis. It also, at this day, appears almost incredible, that, at the age of which we are writing, agriculture was at so low an ebb, and land so very cheap, as to be sold for no more than sixteen Saxon pennies (about four shillings present currency) per acre; and our ancestors paid as much money for four sheep as for an acre of land.

We do not then expect to find any cultivation of arts and sciences, except what the Great Alfred endeavoured to promote; but neither his authority nor example could stimulate a spiritless nobility—and "as he had no model, so he had no imitator!"

In writing the history of the British metropolis, during a period so dark and remote, and in a state of manners and society so very different from the present, it will naturally be expected, that we should nevertheless endeavour to convey some general idea of the period which we have been running over, so as to enable the reader to state sundry important points of comparison between our ancestors and ourselves. It is a period, indeed, of no less than six hundred and

* Among the laws of this king is a statute wherein he acknowledges the pre-eminence of London over all his cities; confirms to it all its antient customs and usages, so as not to be violated by his successors, and particularly grants to the citizens the privilege of holding and keeping the hustings every Monday.

seventeen years, and produced revolutions more frequent, more sudden, more violent, and more disastrous, than the subsequent period of seven hundred and forty years from the Norman conquest. Seven petty governments had been consolidated into one powerful kingdom. The country had, however, long and grievously to labour under the miseries of civil discord, and of formidable foreign invasion. The death of almost every sovereign kindled a dispute about the succession, the feelings of nature were violated, and the dagger or the sword settled the controversy. The Saxon race was borne down and expelled by the Danish. The Danes were massacred, oppressed, and expelled in their turn. Tyrants acted the parts of madmen, and the people were the victims of their frenzy. This state of perpetual agitation could not be favourable to improvement of any kind. The language of the country continued rude and barbarous; the mixed jargon of various ill-assorted nations. Agriculture, the parent of all other arts, was neglected. Tyranny and slavery were established by law. The seas swarmed with pirates, and the highways were infested by wolves and banditti.

“What a contrast to the present well-ordered state of society in Britain, where we now laugh to scorn the idea of invasion; where the tongue in parliamentary debate, and the pen in political pamphlets, are the only weapons of our warfare; every breath of the wind carries out, or brings home exhaustless mines of treasure; the slave becomes free from his master the moment his foot alights on these hallowed shores; unnumbered palaces swell the cities and embellish the plains, and golden harvests wave on the lately barren waste*.”

The above animated picture is surely the work of a great master, who possessed at the same time an expanded and a noble mind.

* Hunter.

LONDON, FROM THE TIME OF WILLIAM I. TO THE REIGN
OF HENRY IV.

THE conquest of England by William duke of Normandy, if such it may be called, produced a reign turbulent, violent, and oppressive. William was convinced of the aversion which the English bore to the Normans; he knew also that though his predecessor Harold's title was in itself defective, yet his popularity, wealth, connexions and other qualifications had superseded every obstacle; and William would have been very much disappointed in his competition for the English crown, were it not that rebellion and treachery, ever the bane of this country, had fortunately for him made his victory more easily attainable over a divided nation.

The citizens of London, and the clergy had been the foremost in repelling William's slender claims, by the immediate coronation of Harold on Edward's death; when, therefore, the disaffection of one part of England had procured the victor power over the other, London was among the first to feel its full extent; her citizens were restrained; no one was to be seen after the curfew had tolled; a fortress was constructed to keep her in awe; and all seemed as though mutual jealousy and suspicion had assumed their unbounded dominion. William, however, soon perceived that the good treatment of his subjects was the surest way to secure their loyalty; and he found that the exercise of his authority with prudence, gained him more adherents than the most violent measures would have procured. He had the sagacity to discover that the growing opulence of the city was an object of his highest consideration, and we are not to wonder then at his future condescensions towards his capital; and that he confirmed to the citizens all the privileges they had enjoyed under former monarchs; his charters of confirmation, still preserved among the city archives, abound in expressions of friendship and protection.

By these charters it was declared that,

“ 1. The burgesses were all to be *law-worthy*.

“ 2. That their children should be their heirs.”

“ There

“ There were two ways of being law worthy, or having the benefit of the law. By the state and conditions of men's persons : almost all freemen had the free benefit of the law ; but men of servile condition had not, especially such as were *in Dominio*, (in Demesne;) for they received justice from their lords, were judged by them in most cases, and had not the true benefit of the law : so neither as to the second observation in this charter, could their children be their heirs ; for they held their lands and goods at the will of the lord, and were not sure to enjoy them longer than at his pleasure.

“ The second way of being law-worthy was, when men had not committed any crimes, or done any thing for which they forfeited the law, and deserved to be outlawed ; then they were said to be *legales homines, recti in curia*, or law-worthy, but not so properly as in the first sense of the word.

“ Hence may arise a very probable conjecture at the meaning of this protection or charter. That the burgesses of London had obtained of the Saxon kings several liberties and immunities is undoubted, among which this was one, to be so far free, as not to be *in Dominio*, or so obnoxious to any lord, but that, by reason of their state and condition, they might be law-worthy, that is, have the free benefit of the law ; and likewise further obtained, (if it was not then a consequent of their personal estate and condition) that their children should be heirs of their lands and goods, and in both these were free from the injuries and unreasonable demands and power of any severe lord ; so that all the application made by their bishop William, and not unlikely by Godfrey the portreve, to the Conqueror for them, was, that their state and condition might be the same it was in king Edward's days, that their children might be their heirs, and that they might in both be protected from the injury and violence of imperious lords ; which by the prevalency of their bishop were granted.

“ Considering, therefore, that by the foregoing instances it is clear, that many or most burgesses of other burghs were *in Dominio*, either of the king, or some other lords or patrons

in the time of king Edward, and that the Londoners might fear the Conqueror would break in upon their privileges, and reduce them to the same condition ; that was a great privilege obtained."

What enhanced the value of this and the following charter was, that they were granted at the time when the feudal system obtained a firmer and more extensive establishment, by the settlement of the Norman barons in England, under the military tenure.

The Tower of London is the only building that remains to indicate the mode of architecture in William's reign. Two public acts, however, are recorded which evince the liberality of great minds. The cathedral of St. Paul, which had been burnt, was re-edified by the benevolent exertions of bishop Maurice ; and a general survey was taken by order of the king throughout the realm, the report of which was carefully collected and deposited in the Exchequer, comprized in two volumes denominated *Domesday Book*. This act reflects honour on the monarch ; and the accuracy with which the survey was taken, on oath, establishes it as a high authority of jurisprudence at the present period, as well as affording a certain knowledge of several important particulars of our country and ancestors for upwards of seven hundred years*.

We pass over the intemperate reign of William Rufus, except merely to note that it is remarkable for the extension of the fortifications at the Tower ; for the rebuilding of London Bridge, and for the founding of Westminster Hall, one of the most respectable specimens of the architecture of these times, at present, the venerable seat of justice, and at the commencement of every reign a scene of national festivity.

* Our great wine trade with Bourdeaux, and the neighbouring provinces, is supposed to have commenced as early as the Conquest, perhaps sooner. But it became very considerable in the reign of Henry II. by reason of his marriage with Elianor, daughter of the duke of Aquitaine ; our conquest of that, and other great wine provinces of France, increased the trade to a high degree. *Pennant*.

Henry I. considering his title to the crown slender, whilst his elder brother Robert lived, thought it his interest to be upon good terms with the citizens; and therefore granted them the first real charter of their privileges, which were ascertained and established, instead of being dictated or regulated by any capricious humour of favouritism. In consequence of this charter, various guilds and associations of trade and profession were formed; and municipal usages, hitherto of no higher authority than common practice, assumed the dignified appearance of legal authorities, and were reduced to writing.

This seems to have been an auspicious reign both for the city and realm; for the subjects of Henry were protected from the licentiousness of the insolent Normans, and enjoyed such abundance of the comforts of life; that corn, sufficient for one hundred persons in one day, was sold for twelve pence; and as much hay and corn as would maintain twenty horses for the same space of time could be purchased for four pence, which was also the price of a sheep.

During this reign the spirit of religion began to manifest itself in religious foundations, in and about London, A. D. 1081, Alwin Child, citizen of London, founded a monastery for Cluniack monks, at Bermondsey, dedicated to St. Saviour. Alfune, who was afterwards the first hospitaller, or proctor of St. Bartholomew's hospital, built a parish church near that gate of the city now called Cripplegate, in the year 1090, which he dedicated to St. Giles. A. D. 1102, Rahere, a gentleman who bore the office of *king's minstrel*, founded the priory of St. Bartholomew, on the east side of West Smithfield and Duck Lane, for canons of St. Augustine; of whom he himself became the first prior. To which the founder affixed an hospital for the relief of sick and infirm persons: and obtained for both foundations many great privileges and immunities: amongst which is mentioned Bartholomew fair for three days. Smithfield was at this time a kind of laystall, for ordure and filth, and the place for public executions.

The priory of Clerkenwell also was raised by the munificence of Jordan Bliset, (who is stiled Baro and Miles) in a field near unto Clerk's Well, on the north side of London. It stood upon and encompassed fourteen acres of land, and was dedicated to the *honour of God and the Assumption of Our Lady*, for Benedictine nuns : he also gave his house and another piece of ground, for building a mill for the use of this priory. It was soon after amply endowed by several benefactions : particularly with certain lands at Muswel Hill, near Highgate, given by Richard Beauvois, bishop of London, in 1112, and confirmed by king Stephen.

The same Jordan Bliset, alias Briset, founded another house near adjoining to these nuns, by the name of the priory of St. John at Jerusalem, for the Knights 'Templars, for which purpose the founder took ten acres of land from the nuns, and gave them ten acres of land in exchange at Welyng-hall, in the county of Kent.

Queen Maud, consort to Henry I. built an hospital for lepers in St. Giles's in the Fields *, and another for poor maimed people near the north gate of the city, which from this foundation and benefaction, has always since that time been distinguished by the name of Cripplegate. Both these hospitals were endowed with a sufficiency to maintain the poor objects received into them, with diet and clothes. She also was the foundress of a priory near Aldgate, for canons regular. This priory, dedicated by the name of Holy Trinity, Christ's Church, was built on the place where Suredas, or Siredus, had some time before begun to erect, or had erected, a church in honour of the Holy Cross and St. Mary Magdalen, and obtained a charter of confirmation from the king ; by which this church of Christ, within the walls of London, where now stands Duke's Place, was made free and acquitted from subjection to any other person or church, except the bishop of London, or church of St. Paul. The queen also appointed one Norman the first prior of this religious house,

* At this hospital it became a custom to present the malefactors carried to execution at Tyburn, with a great bowl of ale, to drink of it as they pleased for their last refreshment in this life. *Entick.*

and

and gave to him and the canons "the east gate of the city, called Aldgate, and the soke, (*i. e.* jurisdiction, district, or ward) thereunto belonging, with all the customs, as she held the same : and two parts of the revenues and rents of the city of Exeter, then valued at 25*l. per ann.* And in the year 1115 certain burgesses of London, descended from the thirteen knights to whom king Edgar granted this soke, gave the same to the church and canons of the Holy Trinity, or Trinity Christ Church, within Aldgate ; then newly founded by queen Maud, taking upon them the brotherhood and participation of the benefits of that house, by the hands of Norman the prior ; and did put the said prior in seisin thereof by the church of St. Botolph, which was built thereon : and was the head of that soke or land anciently called Knighten Guild, but now known by the name of Portsoken ward. So that the church of St. Botolph, without Aldgate, was united and appropriated to the priory of the Holy Trinity, within Aldgate. Which was confirmed not only by royal charter, but by pope Innocent II. in the fourth year of his pontificate ; who by his bull confirmed the uniting and annexing St. Botolph's church and the chapels of St. Catharine, (now St. Catharine Cree Church) alias Christ's Church, and St. Michaels', (which stood, and whose ruins may still be seen in the cellars, between the east extremities of Leadenhall Street and Fenchurch Street, but then) situate in the church yard of the said monastery of the Holy Trinity, to the said canons." The possessions of this priory became so great, that it surpassed all other priories in London and Middlesex for riches.

Soon after this the queen resolved upon another religious foundation, by the name of the church and hospital of St. Catharine near the Tower. For which purpose, Ralph the prior, with the canons of the Holy Trinity, within Aldgate, granted to her a certain parcel of land, to build on, and the mill in the shambles, in lieu of six yard land in the manor of Bracching, in the county of Hertford.

To Maud posterity are also indebted for the foundation of Bow Bridge, then called Stratford, and afterwards Stratford Bow ; and Channel, or Channelsea Bridge ; she also paved the

the way between those two bridges with gravel: and as Sir Richard Baker records, gave certain manors and a mill called Wyggon Mill, to keep the said way and bridges in due repair.

The reign of Stephen was peculiarly calamitous to London for, besides feeling the miseries of a turbulent and unsettled government, the city was nearly consumed by fire, taxed by her usurping prince, threatened with destruction by his haughty competitor, the empress Maud, and alike the prey of the contending parties, to which at last was added all the horror of famine. Providence at length mitigated her distress, and terminated his inauspicious reign at Dover in the fiftieth year of his age.

Henry II. the son of the empress, having assumed the government in A.D. 1154, endeavoured by his mild and equitable conduct, to heal the wounds which the struggle for his succession had occasioned. London once again assumed a degree of opulence which she had not lately witnessed; her buildings increased, and she improved in arts and commerce far, as to enable her citizens to rebuild their bridge of stone that of wood having been often out of repair, and constantly incurring vast expence. To defray the charge, a tax was laid on wool, whence arose the vulgar proverb that "*London bridge was built on woolpacks* *."

Maud

* The manner of laying the foundation of this stone bridge has been variously represented. Stowe, in his Survey, gives it as his opinion that on this occasion, the river, in this part, was left entirely dry, turning the current of the Thames, in a channel cut from Rotherhithe to Battersea. But this conjecture is so vague, and liable to so many extraordinary objections, both as to the expence of such a work, and the difficulties in point of the many properties it would break in upon, that we must dismiss it, and shew from the construction itself, that there was no necessity for such a channel.

By subsequent alterations, and especially the taking away the pier to widen the centre arch, as it now appears, it was found that the stone piers or pillars, are founded upon mighty frames of piles: whose external parts consist of huge piles, drove as close as art can effect: on the top of these are laid long planks or beams of timber, ten inches thick, strongly bolted. Upon this platform is laid the base of the stone pier, nine feet

above

Madox * has stated the value of commodities at this time. The price of an ox was 4*s.* the same for a labouring horse; a sow 1*s.*; a sheep with fine wool 10*d.*; ditto with coarse wool 6*d.* It appears also that in the thirtieth of Henry II. thirty-three cows and two bulls were sold for 8*l.* 7*s.* of the money of those times; five hundred sheep sold for 22*l.* 10*s.*; sixty-six oxen for 18*l.* 3*s.*; fifteen brood mares for 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; and twenty-two hogs for 1*l.* 2*s.* The interest of money was at the rate of 10 *per cent.*; but the Jews exacted an interest still more exorbitant.—This may in some degree account for the rancour of the vulgar against that people whenever occasion offered.

Despising the precepts of his wise father, Richard I. was regardless of the public welfare, or of his own credit, he shamefully alienated the crown lands, and bargained for additional liberties to cities and towns. An improvement in London however took place during this reign. The houses had been hitherto built of wood and thatched with straw or reeds; the danger of such construction had been often experienced by the many conflagrations which the city had suffered; to remedy as much as possible such calamities in future, an order was made by the court of mayor and aldermen, in 1192, that “all houses thereafter to be erected in London, or within the liberties thereof, should be built of stone, with party-walls of the same, and covered either with slates or tiles.” This order, from whatever motive, not

above the bed of the river, and three below the sterlings: and for the preservation of the whole bottom, there are drove on the outside of this wooden foundation, other piles called the sterlings. And it further appears, that the foundation stones on the wooden work, and all the outside stones as high as the sterlings, were laid in pitch instead of mortar, to prevent the water damaging the work: which could not be gone upon, but only at tide of ebb, till raised above high water mark. But we are not to look upon the present to be the identical bridge built or begun by Peter of Colechurch.

This bridge was so justly accounted a public good, that the king encouraged it greatly, and the archbishop of Canterbury gave ten thousand marks towards its construction. *Entick.*

* Formul. Anglic. p. 17.

being

being sufficiently regarded, it was further provided "to appease contentions that might arise among neighbours, upon enclosure between land and land, that twelve aldermen of the city should be chosen in full husting, and these swore to attend the mayor * in making the proposed regulations." By these magistrates the dimensions of the walls were to be regulated, which were to be at least three feet in thickness, and sixteen feet in height.

The citizens at this period had arisen to a very high degree of importance, and preponderance in the scale of politics: for when John earl of Moreton, the king's brother, during his absence in the Holy Land, had assembled the nobility and bishops to deliberate on the tyrannical exactions of William Longchamp, one of the regents, he conjoined with them the citizens, by whose unanimous vote Longchamp was disgraced †. This determination was so grateful to prince John and the rest of the regency that they swore to maintain the city in its ancient privileges. Her riches also were so profuse, that the ready compliance in raising one thousand five hundred marks towards her sovereign's ransom, during his imprisonment, on his return from the crusades, obtained

* At the commencement of Richard's reign the chief magistrate of London was denominatd *bailiff*; Henry Fitz Alwyn first assumed the title of mayor in the year above mentioned.

† One reason of disgust, which the Londoners took at lord chancellor Longchamp, was, the encroachments he had made on their limits, in his works at the Tower. For, in encompassing the premises of that fortress with a wall and a ditch, he broke in and deprived both the church of the Holy Trinity, the hospital of St. Catharine, and the city of London of their properties, in an arbitrary manner. Having enclosed the square tower and the castle with an outward wall of stone embattled, he caused a deep ditch to be dug round, from the south-east point by the north side, to the south-west corner of the said wall, in order to environ it with the river Thames. In which work, the mill belonging to the hospital of St. Catharine, and standing on the place now called Irongate, was removed, and part of a garden, which they had let to the king at six marks *per ann.* was laid waste. And a piece of ground next Smithfield, belonging to the priory of the Holy Trinity, without Aldgate, worth half a mark *per ann.* was taken from it. And the city was deprived of all the ground from the White Tower to the postern gate. *Entick.*

for

for her a charter of confirmation ; and when Richard was received with civic pomp, on his return from captivity, the magnificence displayed on the occasion was so great, as to induce a German nobleman in his suite, jocosely to observe, " That had the emperor been acquainted with the affluence of Richard's subjects, he would have demanded a more exorbitant sum for his release." To show Richard's sentiments of the loyalty of the city on this and other acts of beneficence, he granted that most important charter, which establishes her authority as conservatrix of the river Thames.

Indeed, the fidelity of the citizens to Richard, joined to their general rectitude, gained his utmost confidence, so that when it was resolved to fix a standard for weights and measures for the whole realm, the king committed the execution thereof to the sheriffs of London and Middlesex ; whom he commanded to provide measures, gallons, iron rods, and weights for standards, to be sent to the several counties of England.

In 1193, corn was risen to 18s. 4d. per quarter.

John, though in general defective in his government, was very liberal in his benefits to the citizens ; among others the sheriffwick of Middlesex was confirmed to them ; but it is evident that want of money was the king's inducement for these kindnesses ; in 1215, they were obliged to subscribe two thousand marks towards liquidating the national debt ; but fearful that they should be offended by such an imposition, John granted them the privilege of chusing their chief magistrate, who had hitherto exercised his authority by royal appointment. The apprehensions under which John laboured, on account of his usurpation of the throne, which really belonged to his nephew prince Arthur, and the attachment which the city had ever expressed to the king's person and government, must have instilled something of gratitude into the monarch's mind ; and may in some measure account for the profusion of chartered privileges, which at various times he lavishly dispensed. Happy would it have been for him had he abided by his integrity, and forborne their violation. But his political intrigues, his military efforts, his

thoughtless expenditure, and his rapacity, involved the nation and city in the greatest difficulties, from which he had neither the spirit nor wisdom to relieve them. His wants were gratified by the most unjustifiable and arbitrary methods; and when these could not be supplied he had recourse to coercion; so that the blood and treasure of the kingdom were wantonly squandered in his unprofitable measures. In addition to the city's distresses during this inauspicious reign, her new bridge was destroyed by fire, and three thousand persons fell victims in their efforts to save it from destruction.

The wanton tyranny of John now arrived to such a pitch, that he demanded of the principal barons of the realm security for that allegiance which his conduct had rendered of little value; among others who had felt the hand of violence and oppression was Robert Fitzwalter, castellan and standard bearer to the city; this nobleman, rather than suffer the insults which John had frequently bestowed on his brethren, retired to France; this conduct so irritated the king, who was disappointed in not having such an opponent in his power, that he vented his fury on the noble palace in which he had resided, called Baynard's Castle, and utterly demolished it.

The consequence of these pitiful oppressions and of national resistance was the confirmation of Magna Charta, which either granted, or secured very important liberties or privileges to every rank of men in the kingdom. By the thirteenth article of this Charter it is provided, "That the city of London, and all other cities, burghs, and towns, and ports of the kingdom, should enjoy all their free customs, both by land and water."

From what has been advanced, it appears that London had made a considerable progress both in her political and commercial consequence during John's reign. Her spirit, her power, and her wealth, asserted, acquired, or purchased important privileges, the benefit of which she even now enjoys. William of Malmsbury records her at this time as "a noble city, renowned for the opulence of her citizens, and crowded with the merchants who resort thither with their various commodities." The traffic for corn was wholly engrossed by the
London

London merchants, "who had their grainaries always filled, whence all parts of the kingdom were supplied*." It was also now that the representatives of London, jointly with those of the Cinque Ports, were dignified with the title of *Barons*, an appellation which they at present enjoy.

John is said to have been the first monarch who coined what has since been denominated *sterling* or *easterling* money; which obtained this name from the circumstance of his sending for artists from the German states to rectify and regulate the silver coinage; gold coin not having yet been appropriated as a circulating medium of commerce.

It is curious to observe that an income of 10*l. per annum*, at the time we are describing, would have gone as far in housekeeping as 150*l.* of our present currency. Wheat was 3*s.* per quarter, or about 9*s.* of our time; Rochelle wine 20*s.* per ton; Anjou wine 24*s.* and the best French wine, at about 26*s.* 8*d.* or about 80*s.* at present.

* The manner of living during this Anglo-Norman period was grossly extravagant. Of the luxury of those times it will be sufficient to produce a single instance. Fitz-Stephen tells us, that an archbishop of Canterbury paid for a *single dish* of eels five pounds, amounting, according to the most moderate computation, to four-score pounds of our money, but, in reality, to almost double that sum. Were a prelate of the age of George III. foolish or profuse enough to lay out 180*l.* upon a *whole supper*, he would be justly paragraphed in the chronicles of the times. But the extravagance of the entertainments was compensated, it will be said, by the soberness of the hours. The time of dining, even at court, and in the families of the proudest barons, was nine in the morning, and of supping, five in the afternoon. These hours were considered not only as favourable to business, but as conducive to health. The proverbial jingle of the day gives us a picture of the division of time in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries:

Lever à cinq, diner à neuf,
Souper à cinq, coucher à neuf,
Fait vivre ans nonante & neuf.

To rise at five and dine at nine,
To sup at five and bed at nine,
Lengthens life at ninety-nine.

Hunter.

It is indisputable that Henry III. was a weak prince in point of government, but that he was also a great encourager of the arts is fully demonstrated. Let it be remembered, that Henry's reign was the period whence parliamentary freedom dates its origin.

This reign was also an æra of monastic structures. The terrors of purgatory, the influence of the saints in their intercession, and the tyranny of superstition were so powerfully impressed, that no one who had a hope of comfort in this life, or wished for salvation in the next, could be exempted from such kind of sacrifice.

Among others in various parts of England, the following were erected in London: St. Mary of Bethlehem, without Bishopsgate, the Priory of St. Helen, the Carmelite or White Friars, in Fleet Street, the Franciscans or Grey Friars, in Newgate Street, the Augustine Friars, near Broad Street, the Hospital at the Savoy, besides refounding of Westminster Abbey.

Although Henry was unjust in his decisions, and oppressive in his measures towards the capital; he was not able to curb her improvements; for like the pine which is said to increase under pressure, London, in 1237, acquired more solid benefit from a purer and more perennial source than all the smiles of court favour could furnish*.

From the year 1218 is to be dated the right which the city enjoys to the lands, purchased out of the forest of Middlesex.

* The year 1235 also is memorable from a little city incident, which has contrived to transmit its remembrance to our times by means of an annual ceremony at swearing in the sheriffs, Sept. 30, before the Cursitor Barons of the Exchequer, which is performed with much solemnity by one of the aldermen, in presence of the Lord Mayor, who goes into and continues in the court covered. One Walter le Bruin, a farrier, obtained a grant from the crown, of a certain spot of ground in the Strand, in the parish of St. Clement Danes, whereon to erect a forge for carrying on his business. For this the city was to pay annually an acknowledgement or quit-rent of six horse-shoes, with the nails appertaining, at the king's Exchequer, Westminster. The forge and manufacture exist no longer, but the acknowledgement, after a lapse of so many ages, continues still to be paid. *Hunter.*

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The western parts of the city and the adjacent villages, previously to this period, had been supplied with water from a reservoir called the river of *Wells*, so named from its forming a current occasioned by the influx of various springs in the neighbourhood, denominated *Turnmill brook*, and *Old-bourn*, or *brook*, rising near what is now called *Middle Row*, which, with the rivulet in its vicinity, formed what was afterwards called the river of *Wells*, and *Fleet Ditch*. The water to the other parts of the city had been raised from the *Thames*, *Wallbrook*, *Langbourn*, *Sherbourn*, *Holywell*, *Clerk's-well*, a fish-pond near *Cripplegate*, and an adjoining well, still called *Crowder's-well*, &c. But these conveniences, as they were then obtained, not being sufficient for her increased magnitude and population, it was judged expedient to assist the benevolence of nature by the exertions of art, the corporation therefore "obtained a grant from Gilbert de Sandford, lord of the manor of *Tye-bourne*, then a village at a considerable distance, of certain springs in that manor, in the vicinity of *St. Mary's-bourne*, whence water was to be conveyed into the city, in leaden pipes of six inches in diameter*.

The water thus introduced into the city was distributed into various reservoirs of lead cased with stone. The principal and most magnificent of these was erected in an open field, denominated *Crown-field*, in *West-cheap*, from an inn at that time at the east end. It may be amusing to our readers to be informed, that this field, which continued so for many succeeding years, forms the present beautiful, spacious, and opulent street, called *Cheapside*. This conduit was not finished till forty-eight years afterwards; such an undertaking now could be completed in the same number of weeks.

* As this was a work of very considerable labour and expence, the foreign merchants, particularly those of Germany and Flanders, were called upon to contribute towards the charge. They were accordingly assessed in the sum of 100*l.* of the time; and, in consideration of their paying the sum of forty marks into the city treasury annually, they acquired a privilege hitherto unenjoyed; of landing, housing, and vending wood and other bulky commodities: having before this been compelled to expose their goods to sale on ship-board only.

This parent fountain was multiplied in various parts of the city, as necessity induced, to the number of nineteen, of various architecture, contributing at once to splendor and utility, till the singularly patriotic introduction of the New River, and a tribute extracted by the Thames water works, superseding their use, when they were ultimately removed*.

In 1246, London gradually had advanced in magnitude and opulence, several regulations respecting buildings, and the prevention of accidents by fire, were established; and the citizens was enabled to purchase from Richard, earl of Cornwall, the king's brother, his fee-farm of Queenhithe, with all the rights, customs, &c. thereunto belonging. Indeed, to such a state of wealth were the city arrived, that when Henry, through the extravagance of his court, was compelled to pawn the crown jewels, none were able to comply in furnishing his wants except the citizens of London. His oppressive measures had not been able to subdue their spirit or their resources, so that the little cash which remained in the kingdom was deposited in their coffers; and the king was so enraged at the circumstance, that he exclaimed, "Were the treasures of Augustus Cæsar exposed to sale, the city of London would buy them. Those fellows who call themselves barons, are wallowing in wealth, and in every species of luxury, whilst we labour under the want of common necessaries!" Strange that a monarch who might have been happy in the affection of his subjects should be reduced to such a state of distress by his criminal extravagance and unjust government†.

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* Stow has preserved a list of the conduits, which we subjoin: Cheap-side Conduit, erected in 1289; the *Tonne* in Cornhill, 1401; Bosses of water at Paul's Wharf, and Cripplegate, 1423; the little conduit in Westcheap, 1442; in Fleet Street, and Aldermanbury, 1471; another in Fleet Street and in Cripplegate, 1478; Grass Street, 1491; Holborn-cross, 1498, afterwards Lamb's Conduit, this was at the top of Snow Hill; little Conduit, Stocks Market, 1500; at Bishopsgate, 1513; London Wall, facing Coleman Street, 1528; Aldgate, 1535; Lothbury, and at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, 1546; Dowgate, 1568; Old Fish Street, 1583; Broken Wharf, 1594; Aldersgate, 1610.

† The year 1262 was remarkable for a cause tried in the Exchequer, between the citizens of London and the abbot of Westminster, by a jury consisting

The following account of the duties paid to the king by the citizens half-yearly, forms a curious document :

By the amount of tonnages (the king's weigh-house) and petty standages	-	-	97	13	11
By the amount of customs of all sorts of foreign merchandizes, together with the issues of divers passages	-	-	75	6	10
By the metage of corn, and customs at Billingsgate			5	18	7
By the customs of fish, &c. brought to London bridge-street	-	-	7	0	2
By the issue of the field and bars of Smithfield			4	7	6
By toll raised at the city gates, and duties on the river of Thames, westward of the bridge			8	13	2
By stallages duties arising from the markets of Westcheap, Grass Chirche and Wool Chirchewawe, and annual scotage of the butchers of London	-	-	42	0	5
By the produce of Queenhithe	-	-	17	9	2
By the chattels of foreigners, forfeited for trading in the city, contrary to the laws and customs thereof	-	-	10	11	0
By places and perquisites within the city	-		86	5	9
By the produce of the Waidarii and Ambiani of Corbye and Neele, merchants of those towns			9	6	8
Total			364	13	2

Henry's reign is certainly reckoned among the most ignominious in the English annals, and it has been allowed that the reign of his son Edward I. is among the most heroic and triumphant. Let us draw the comparison, and ask, "By which of the two did the nation suffer most? By sums lavished on favourites and buildings; or by sums and blood wasted in

consisting of twelve knights of the county of Middlesex; when it appeared, by their verdict, that the sheriffs of London had a right to enter the town of Westminster, and all the houses in Middlesex, belonging to the abbot; and, on a proper summons, to distrain all and every of his tenants in case of non-appearance.

unjust

unjust wars? If we look into the Parliamentary History, and observe Edward's reign narrowly, we shall scarce find fewer representations against the tyranny of the son than against the encroachments of the father. Who will own that he had not rather employ master William and Edward of Westminster to paint the guests of the kings of Antioch, than imitate the son in his barbarities in Wales and usurpations in Scotland * !"

Edward, however, seems to have understood his interest in keeping fair with the citizens, on several occasions; for when he appointed their mayor, Gregory de Rokeslie, as a person of more than ordinary consequence and ability to be his ambassador, in preference to so many dignitaries in church and state; he addressed a writ to the magistrates and principal citizens, directing them "to appoint four respectable and discreet persons, whom he might commission, during the mayor's absence, to preserve peace and good order, and to administer justice within the city's jurisdiction."

The year 1277, was productive of a variety of municipal regulations for the better government of the city. An order of common council, the first on record, "prohibited a market to be held on London Bridge, or in any other place not specially appointed; and forbidding to all citizens the purchase of cattle or goods of any kind, in the town of Southwark, which could be had in the city, under a pain of forfeiting the commodity purchased." Millers were restricted to a certain rate of one halfpenny, for grinding every quarter of wheat. About this time also the iniquitous practices of engrossing and forestalling, had proved very prejudicial to the fair trader, so that it was necessary some laws should be established to repress the growing enormities. The legislature having provided for the prevention and punishment of these grievances, Edward issued his orders to the mayor and sheriffs to see them properly enforced †.

* Lord Orford's Anecdotes of Painting.

† Leges Antiq. f. 122.

By these laws, the punishment ordained for the miller who should be convicted of offending against the statute, *was to be carried through certain streets of the city, in a tumbrel or dust cart, and exposed to the contempt of the populace.*

And the baker *was to forfeit his bread*, for the first offence; *to be imprisoned* for the second; and *to stand in the pillory* for the third.

In this year, the city was first divided into twenty-four wards, each to be governed by its alderman and common-council, who were to be elected by the inhabitant freemen; the whole to form one great city council, to which the general concerns of the community were to be committed;— they were named as at present, except the ward *Foris*, which we imagine to be now *Farringdon Without*; *Ludgate* and *Newgate*, now *Farringdon Within*; and *Lodungeber*, probably *Lothbury*, now Broad Street ward.

The king's paternal concern for the city was exercised at this time in his liberal letters patent, for the repair of London Bridge; and in return he received the most solid expressions of gratitude, loyalty, and attachment from the citizens.

Sensible also, of the infinite advantages that would accrue to his subjects from the encouragement of commerce, Edward published a charter, or declaration of his protection and privileges granted to foreign merchants, in the year 1302; and also ascertained the customs or duties which those foreign merchants, in return for his said charter, were to pay on merchandize exported and imported. This charter, of which, for its curiosity, is here subjoined, in substance, was afterwards confirmed by king Edward III. in the year 1328.

“ The merchants of *Almaine*, France, Spain, Portugal, Navarre, Lombardy, Florence, Provence, Catalonia, the duchy of *Aquitaine*, *Toulouse*, *Flanders*, *Brabant*, and of all other foreign parts, who shall come to traffic in England, shall and may safely come with their merchandize into the king's cities, towns, and ports, and sell the same by whole-sale only, as well to natives as to foreigners. And the

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merchandize

merchandize called merceries (probably small wares, toys, haberdashery, &c.) as also spices, they may sell by retail.— They may also carry beyond sea, the goods they may want in England, paying the usual customs; excepting wines, however, which being once imported, shall not be exported without the king's special licence."—He commands all his officers in fairs, cities, and towns, to do speedy or summary justice to the said foreign merchants, agreeably to the law-merchant, or custom of merchants: particularly,

1. "That on any trial between them and Englishmen, the jury shall be one half foreigners, where such can be had.

2. "That a proper person shall be appointed in London, to be justiciary for foreign merchants.

3. "That there shall be but one weight and measure throughout the kingdom; in consideration of which, and of the king's freeing them from prisage, and all other burdens, the said foreign merchants shall pay a custom of two shillings for every tun of wine which they shall import, over and above the old customs; and for every sack of wool which they shall export, forty pence over and above the old custom of half a mark; and the like for three hundred wool-fells. *Item*, two shillings for every piece of scarlet cloth dyed in grain; and one shilling and six-pence for every other dyed cloth, in the dying of which, grain shall be mixed; also twelve pence for any dyed without any grain; and the like sum for every quintal of wax: they shall likewise pay three-pence *per* pound, *ad valorem*, for such merchandize imported, and also when re-exported, as cannot well be reduced to a certain custom, in the above manner, such as silks, sarcenets, lawns, corn, horses and other live cattle, and many other kinds of merchandize, both imported and exported, over and above all the old customs on such sort of merchandize."

About the year 1306, the use of coal became common in London. This species of fuel, when first introduced, was only employed in such occupations as required great fires, such as brewing, dying, &c. The burning and smoke of coal becoming offensive to the resident nobility and gentry,

they remonstrated against its use as a nuisance, and obtained a royal proclamation to prohibit it, under severe penalties. Wood-fuel becoming scarce as the population and trade of the city increased, prejudice soon gave precedence to utility, and the power of the proclamation diminished*.

The monastic foundations in the city during this reign, were the Abbey of Nuns of the order of St. Clare, called the Minories, founded by Edmund earl of Lancaster, the king's brother: the monastery of the order of Black Friars, founded by Robert Kilwardby, archbishop of Canterbury, in 1276; the Crouched Friars, founded in 1289; and St. James's Hospital, for lepers, now St. James's Palace.

Edward II. being incapable of any great action, we are not to seek much improvement during his distressing and disorderly reign. Attached to minions who used unlimited tyranny on one hand, and hated by an ambitious and traitorous queen on the other, it is not to be wondered at, when we find the city torn by the contending adherents of the prevailing party. And though we pity the sufferings of a monarch, who was more imbecile than vicious, and despise the villainous means contrived to accomplish his unusually

* An estimate of living at this time, is not unworthy of perusal. The archbishop of Saint Andrew's, in Scotland, a prisoner at Winchester, in 1307, was allowed one shilling a day for the maintenance of himself and servants, in the following proportions :

	£.	s.	d.
For the archbishop's own daily expence	-	-	0 0 6
One man servant to attend	-	-	0 0 3
One boy to attend him likewise	-	-	0 0 1½
A chaplain to say daily mass to him	-	-	0 0 1½
	£.	0	1 0

It must be recollected, that this was equal to three shillings present currency, that the necessities of life were at the following prices, and every other article of provisions in proportion : a quarter of wheat 4s. ditto of ground malt, 3s. 4d. ditto of pease, 2s. 6d. ditto of oats, 2s. a bull, 7s. 6d. a cow, 6s. a fat mutton, 1s. an ewe-sheep, 8d. a capon, 2d. and a cock or hen, 1½d. When the queen of Robert Bruce was a prisoner in England, in 1314, her allowance was twenty shillings per week for herself and household. *Hunter.*

cruel death; we cannot but rejoice that the realm and city were alike liberated from his ill-fated government, and the brutal control of Isabella and the iniquitous Mortimer.*

When Edward III. assumed the reins of royalty in his own person, the circumstances of the state appeared in a better view than many years experience had given reason to expect; and the city very sensibly felt the benefit of the change; her chief magistrate supported the dignity and expence of his office with respectability and importance, and rose into the highest degree of consideration: and to shew to what a pitch of opulence the citizens were arrived, they advanced to the king the sum of twenty thousand marks, to be repaid out of the subsidy afterwards granted towards accomplishing his warfare against France.†

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* "Mr. Pennant informs us, that a menagery had very long been a piece of regal state; Henry the first had his at his manor of Woodstock, where he kept lions, leopards, lynxes, porcupines, and several other uncommon beasts. They were afterwards removed to the Tower. He issued his orders to the sheriffs, to supply four-pence a day for the maintenance of his white bear, (*urso nostra albo*), and his keeper in the Tower of London. They were also to provide a muzzle, and an iron chain to hold the said bear out of the water; and a long cord to hold it during the time it was fishing in the Thames; they were besides ordered to build a small house in the Tower, for the king's elephant, (*elephantem nostrum*) and to make provision both for beast and keeper. Edward II. commanded the sheriffs of London, to pay the keepers of the king's leopards, six pence a day, for the sustenance of the leopards; and three halfpence a day for the diet of the keeper, out of the fee-farm of the city."

† An inhabitant of modern London, after a lapse of four centuries, will probably be amused to see the relative situation of the several wards, in point of size, importance, population, and opulence, at this time.

THE ASSESSMENT :

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Tower Ward	-	-	365 0 0	Bishopsgate	-	-	559 6 8
Billingsgate	-	-	763 0 0	Lyme Street	-	-	110 0 0
Bridge	-	-	765 6 8	Cornhill	-	-	315 0 0
Dowgate	-	-	660 10 0	Cheap	-	-	517 10 0
Langburn	-	-	352 6 8	Broad Street	-	-	588 0 0
Wallbroke	-	-	911 0 0	Vintry	-	-	634 16 8
				Queenhithe			

In 1346, Edward granted a commission to the master of the hospital of St. Giles in the Fields, and to John of Holborn, for the purpose of repairing the public roads, to lay a toll on all sorts of carriages, for two years to come, passing through the highway leading from the said hospital, to the bar of the Old Temple of London, namely Holborn Bar, near to which stood the Old Temple, or house of the Knights Templars; and also through another highway called Perpoole, (now Gray's-Inn Lane) joining to the aforementioned highway; which roads were, by the frequent passing of carts, wains, horses, and cattle, to and from London, become so miry and deep, as to be almost impassable. And by authority of the same prince, an order of council passed in 1353, for laying a tax of three pence on every sack of wool, and every three hundred of wool-fells; six pence on every last of leather; four pence on every fodder of lead; four pence on every ton of wine; and one halfpenny on every twenty shillings value of all other goods carried either by land or water to the staple of Westminster; for the purpose of repairing the highway leading from the gate of London, called Temple Bar, to the gate of the Abbey at Westminster; that highway being, by the frequent passing of carts and horses, carrying merchandize and provisions to the said staple, become so deep and miry, and the pavement so broken and worn, as to be very dangerous both to men and carriages; and that all owners of houses adjacent to the highway, should repair as much as lay before their doors. Mention is also made of a bridge to be erected near the royal palace at Westminster, for the conveniency of the said staple: but the last probably meant no more than stairs

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Queenhithe - - -	435	13	4	Portsoken - - -	27	10	0
Cordwayner's Street	2,195	3	4	Castle-Baynard - -	63	6	8
Farringdon Within -	730	16	8	Bassishaw - - -	79	13	4
Farringdon Without	114	13	4	Aldersgate - - -	57	10	0
Cripplegate - - -	462	10	0				
Coleman Street -	1,051	16	0	Making a Sum	£.12,385	13	4
Candlewick Street -	133	6	8	Total of -			
Aldgate - - -	20	0	0				

for

for the landing of the goods, which sometimes went by the name of a bridge. From this record we may learn, that Temple Bar and Holborn Bar were the most antient western boundaries of the city; that the highway or road between Temple Bar and Westminster, now the noble street called the Strand, was not then built upon, but was a mere country road, separating the city of London from the village of Westminster; having, however, many noblemens and gentlemens houses and gardens adjoining to it, which have since given names to the streets there erected; but whether the village of Charing, lying partly in the way to Westminster, was still in being, or how and when it came to decay, we cannot determine; there was, however, such a village, with a cross on the very spot where the street still bears its name: which cross was not removed till about the middle of the seventeenth century. This affords a curious contrast of approaches to the city of London, in the days of Edward III. compared with the present period.*

This prince, in 1354, granted to the chief magistrate, the privilege of having gold and silver maces carried before him, a privilege hitherto belonging only to royalty, and expressly prohibited to every corporate body in the kingdom, except by royal precept, they being only permitted to have maces of copper. It is with reason asserted, that from this time the chief magistrate of London has assumed the title of *Lord Mayor*.

As a mark of gratitude for favors recently bestowed by the king, the city, when he renewed his preparations for ef-

* It is to be inferred hence, that the staple for wool at Westminster, occasioned so great a resort to that royal village, that it encreased, on that account, to a considerable town; it having had before no other dependence but the royal residence, part of the year, and the very large adjacent abbey, until the year 1541, when Henry VIII. on the dissolution of its monastery, converted it into a bishoprick, with a dean and twelve prebendaries, appointing the whole county of Middlesex, except Fulham, which was to belong to the bishop of London, as its diocese. On this occasion it became a city; for the making of which, according to Lord Chief Justice Coke, nothing more is required than the appellation of a bishop's see.

feting the conquest of France, in 1355, voluntarily contributed towards the proposed armament, twenty-five men completely armed, and five hundred archers, habited in uniform; and no doubt remains, but they behaved themselves in the ensuing battle of Poitiers, under the conduct of the Black Prince, as became brave soldiers and loyal citizens.

The public entry of this hero into London, in 1357, was distinguished by the most costly and magnificent parade. "Every street through which the cavalcade passed, exhibited a display of all the riches, beauty, and splendor, of an opulent metropolis, emulously engaged to confer every token of respect on a darling prince, and the captive French monarch. Hangings of tapestry, and streamers of silk, decorated every mansion, whilst vessels of gold and silver ostentatiously announced the wealth of its inhabitants. The implements and ornaments of war were displayed with peculiar pride and exultation. The beauty and gentility of the whole kingdom had flocked to the capital, to enjoy this rare spectacle. The captive John, arrayed in royal robes, was mounted on a beautiful white steed, whilst the victorious prince of Wales, as modest as brave, in a plain dress, rode by his side on a little black palfrey, with the air of an attendant, rather than of a conqueror. But this zenith of splendor was soon eclipsed—the life of this excellent prince terminated in 1376, in the forty-sixth year of his age, sincerely and universally deplored.

The year 1360 was highly honourable to the city. A French army of twenty thousand men, having made a descent on the Sussex coast, and committed innumerable, wanton, and cruel depredations, a spirit of retaliation was quickly excited, and the ports of the kingdom headed by the Londoners, equipped a formidable fleet of one hundred and sixty sail, with fourteen thousand men, who soon purged the Channel of the invaders, and, in return, landing on the coast of France, spread universal dismay and devastation.

The plague having made dreadful ravages in 1361, the state thought it adviseable to use every prevention against
any

any further progress it might make ; and as it was imagined that slaughtering beasts was a great cause to induce the maulady, the king issued the following proclamation :

“ Because by killing of great beasts, &c. from whose putrified blood running down the streets, and the bowels cast into the Thames, the air in the city is very much corrupted and infected, whence abominable and most filthy stinks proceed ; sicknesses, and many other evils have happened to such as have abode in the said city, or have resorted to it ; and great dangers are feared to fall out for the time to come, unless remedy be presently made against it :

“ We, willing to prevent such danger, and to provide as much as in us lies for the honesty of the said city, and the safety of our people, by the consent of our council in our present parliament, have ordained, that all bulls, oxen, hogs, and other gross creatures, to be slain for the sustenance of the said city, be led as far as the town of Stratford on one part of London, and the town of Knightsbridge on the other ; and there, and not on this side, be slain ; and that their bowels be there cleansed, to be brought, together with the flesh, to the said city to be sold : and if any butcher shall presume any thing rashly against this ordinance, let him incur forfeiture of the flesh of the creatures which he hath caused to be slain on this side the said towns, and the punishment of imprisonment for one year. This ordinance to be publicly proclaimed and held ; and all butchers doing otherwise to be chastized and punished according to the form of the ordinance aforesaid. Witness the king at Westminster,” &c.

A very singular opportunity of displaying city hospitality and magnificence, occurred in 1363. The Scottish and French monarch having returned a visit to Edward as guests, to whom they had been formerly captives, were joined at London by the king of Cyprus ; these princes, with the English monarch, having received an invitation to dine in the city ; were all entertained at the house of Henry Picard, a citizen of distinction, who had served the office of lord mayor a few years before.

But

But circumstances of more real importance took place about this time; several regulations were established to prevent litigation between landlord and tenant, which ordained, "That every fixed improvement which the tenant shall make on his tenement, during the time of his lease, it shall not be in his power to destroy or remove on quitting the premisses, but to leave it for the benefit of his landlord."

The latter years of Edward were troublesome and ungracious: after the death of his accomplished son the Black Prince, the monarch grew peevish, impatient, and in some degree ridiculous: his animosity with his parliament, the crown which he had hitherto supported with dignity, descending to a weak, unprotected boy, and the insults he received on account of his silly attachment to the caprice of Alice Perrers, had soured his temper, and sunk upon his mind. Worn out with care and vexation, he terminated what has been called, "a long and glorious career," at Shene, in Surrey, in 1377, aged sixty-six years,—fifty-one of which he had swayed the sceptre. His character, however, is very ably summed up in a few words by Granger: "his valour, conduct and fortune, are equally the objects of our admiration: but he acquired more solid glory by his domestic government, than by all the splendor of his victories*."

Several religious houses were erected in the city and liberties during this reign; among the principal, were the collegiate chapel of St. Stephen, adjoining the antient palace at Westminster; the Chartreuse, vulgarly called the Charterhouse, founded by Sir Walter Manny; New Abbey, East Smithfield; and Elsing Spital, now Sion College.

The events of the inauspicious reign of Richard II. furnish details unpleasant and un instructive†. The city councils taking example from their superiors, were tumultuous,

* Biographical History of England, Vol. I. p. 11.

† In 1377, a subsidy was granted by parliament, to which individuals were assessed proportionably to their rank and condition in life. From it we learn the consideration in which the city magistracy was now held in the eye of the law. The chief magistrate decorated with the title of *right honourable*, and *lord Mayor*, was rated as an earl, at four pounds, and the aldermen as barons, at two pounds each. *Fabian*, p. 293.

inconsistent, and irregular, which does not appear extraordinary, when the country was governed by a misguided youth, who, unlike his amiable father, the Black Prince, grew up into a rash and inconsiderate man, irritating his friends into alienation and indifference, and his enemies into dangerous revolt and treason. These causes induced one of the boldest and most dangerous insurrections that disgrace the English annals, in 1380.

It appears that the expences attending fruitless expeditions to France and Flanders, and the want of economy, so common in the reign of an indiscreet minor, had reduced the English treasury to so low an ebb, that in order to procure a sufficient supply, the parliament was obliged to impose a tax of three groats on every person, male and female, above the age of fifteen; and enacted, that, in raising the tax, the rich should relieve the poor by a reasonable aid.

“ This imposition created a mutiny which had almost destroyed the English constitution. History is full of examples of the rich tyrannizing over the poor: but here the lower classes of the people rose against their rulers, committed the most flagrant outrages upon them, and took ample vengeance for all the calamities and hardships with which they had been oppressed.

“ John Ball, a fanatic preacher, had travelled about the country and expatiated in his harangues on the origin of mankind from one common stock, their equal and unalienable right to liberty, and to all the goods and produce of nature.

“ These tenets, which flattered the vanity of the populace, and are so consonant to the notions of primitive equality, imprinted on the hearts of all men, were greedily swallowed by the multitude, and kindled the sparks of that sedition, which soon after burst into an open conflagration.

“ The money arising from this tax had been farmed out to a set of rapacious persons, who exacted the tax with great rigour from the people; and the clause enjoining the rich to assist the poor, was so vague and undetermined, that it occasioned many oppressions, and rendered the people more sensible of the hardships under which they laboured.

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“The insurrection began in Essex, where a report was industriously propagated, that the peasants were doomed to destruction; and that their houses would be burned and plundered. While their minds were alarmed and irritated with this general rumour, the collectors came to the shop of a blacksmith in that county, while he was at his ordinary labour, and demanded the tax for his daughter; but this he refused to pay, on pretence of her being below the age assigned by the statute.

“One of these fellows offered to produce a very indecent proof to the contrary, and at the same time rudely handled the person of the girl; which the father resented, and instantly knocked out the ruffian’s brains with his hammer. The by-standers applauded the action, and exclaimed, that it was high time for the people to take vengeance on their tyrants, and to vindicate their native liberty. They immediately had recourse to arms; the whole neighbourhood joined in the sedition; the flame spread in an instant over the county; it soon extended itself into Kent, Hertford, Surrey, Sussex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridge, and Lincoln. Before the government had the least warning of the danger, the disorder had grown beyond control or opposition: the populace had shaken off all regard to their former masters, and being headed by the most bold and daring of their associates, who assumed the fictitious names of Wat Tyler, Jack Straw, Hob Carter, and Tom Miller, by which they meant to express and glory in their inferior origin, they committed every where the most cruel outrages, and wantonly murdered all the nobility and gentry who had the misfortune to fall in their way.

“The insurgents of the different counties being assembled, amounted nearly to one hundred thousand men, who met on Blackheath, under their principal leaders, Wat Tyler and Jack Straw; and as the princess of Wales, the king’s mother, in her return from a pilgrimage to Canterbury, passed through the midst of them, they attacked her retinue. Some of the most insolent among them, to shew their resolution of reducing all to an equality, obliged her to kiss them; though they permitted her to proceed on her journey

journey without offering any farther insult. They sent a deputation to the king, who had taken refuge in the Tower, and desired to have an interview with him. Richard sailed down the river in his barge; but on approaching the shore, and witnessing many instances of tumult and confusion, did not think proper to land, but returned to that fortress.

“ In the mean the insurgents, assisted by the populace of the city, had broke into London; burned the duke of Lancaster’s palace in the Savoy; beheaded all the gentlemen that fell in their way; butchered all the lawyers and attornies, against whom they expressed the most inveterate hatred; and plundered the warehouses of the opulent merchants.

“ A large body of them fixed their quarters at Mile-End; and the king not thinking himself safe in the Tower, which was but weakly garrisoned, and ill supplied with provisions, was persuaded to go out to meet them, and ask the cause of their grievances. They insisted upon a general amnesty; the abolition of slavery; liberty of commerce in market towns, without tolls, or imposts; and a stated rent on lands, instead of the services required by villenage. Their requests, however reasonable in themselves, were extremely disagreeable to the barons, whom it was no less dangerous to offend; the king, however, was obliged to comply with them; charters for that purpose were immediately granted; and this formidable body having carried their point, instantly dispersed, and returned to their respective habitations.

“ At length another body of the rebels had forced their passage into the Tower, where they murdered Simon Sudbury, the primate and chancellor, with Sir Robert Hales, the treasurer, and several other persons of distinction; and then issuing forth into the city, pillaged the houses of all the wealthy inhabitants.

“ The king riding through Smithfield, very slenderly guarded, encountered Wat Tyler at the head of these insurgents, and entered into a conference with him. Tyler ordered his companions to retire, till he should exhibit a signal; after which they were to murder all the company, except the king himself. Several forms of charters being successively rejected by Wat Tyler, he was invited to a conference with
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the king, that the terms of accommodation might be finally adjusted. The meeting took place in Smithfield, Richard being attended by a small party of the guards, and Tyler by about twenty thousand men. Sir John Newton having been ordered to conduct this presumptuous rebel to the king, he treated the knight with insolence and obloquy, and even aimed a blow at him with his dagger. Richard coming up, interposed in the fray, and ordered Sir John, who was preparing to oppose Tyler, to alight, and surrender his weapon to the ruffian. The latter, inflamed by his quarrel with the knight, now made another attempt to wound him. Roused by this attack on one of the king's friends, Walworth, the loyal and courageous mayor, advised Richard to take Tyler into custody. Having received an order to that effect, the magistrate gallantly approached him, and gave him so violent a blow on the head, that he was unable to preserve his seat on his horse. Several other persons of the king's retinue rushed on the rebel as he fell, and put a speedy period to his life.

“ The mutineers seeing their leader fall, prepared themselves for revenge; and the king and his whole company must have perished on the spot, had not Richard manifested great presence of mind in this extremity. He ordered his company to stop, advanced alone towards the enraged multitude, and accosting them with an affable and intrepid countenance, “ What, my good people,” said he, is the meaning of this commotion? Be not concerned for the loss of your leader. I am your king; I will become your leader: follow me into the field, and you shall have whatever you demand.” Overawed by his presence, they implicitly followed him, and he peaceably dismissed them, after complying with their demands.

“ Richard's conduct on this occasion, considering he was only sixteen years of age, gave birth to great expectations in his favour; but in proportion as he advanced in years, they gradually vanished.

“ The populace were so confounded at the death of Tyler, and so overawed by the presence, and charmed with the magnanimity

magnanimity of their prince, that they followed him implicitly and almost mechanically, without knowing whither they were going. He led them into the fields of Islington, to prevent any disorder that might have arisen from their remaining in the city: being there joined by Sir Robert Knoles, with a body of veteran soldiers, and some thousands of Londoners, who had been collected, he strictly enjoined that officer not to attack the insurgents, or commit an undistinguished carnage among them, as had been at first proposed: he then quietly dismissed them, with the same charters which had been granted to their companions.

“ The nobility and gentry being informed of this insurrection, which threatened the kingdom with instant ruin, hastened to London with their vassals and adherents; and Richard soon had an army of forty thousand men. The rebels finding it in vain to make any further resistance, quietly laid down their arms, and submitted to the king’s mercy; the charters of enfranchisement and pardon were revoked in parliament; and several of the ring-leaders were tried, convicted, and capitally punished.

“ It was alledged that the rebels had formed a plan of seizing the king’s person, to carry him about with them through the several counties of England, as a sanction to their proceedings; to murder the nobility, gentry, lawyers, and even all the bishops and priests, except the mendicant friars; then to dispatch the king himself: and having thus destroyed all difference of rank and condition, to govern the kingdom at their pleasure.

“ It is not unlikely that some of the most enthusiastic among them, in the first transports of their phrenzy, and the first run of their success, might have conceived such a chimerical scheme; but had they actually succeeded in their design, they would soon have found the inconvenience of such a perfect equality as they had projected, and gladly have replaced themselves under the law they had violated.”*

To check, however, as much as possible, future discontents and the growing disorders in the city, it was ordained in 1386, that “ the common-council should be elected annually by

* *Lyttleton’s History of England.*

the several wards ; and that a court thus formed should be convened, at least, once a quarter, to settle the public concerns of the city." The next year this ordinance was confirmed, and the number of representatives appointed according to the size and population of the respective wards.

But the infatuated Richard rapidly hurrying his own destruction began the unhappy career of insulting and oppressing the city whence he derived his greatest support ; he carried his proceedings to such a disgustful height that one of the most considerable citizens, named Sudbury, at the head of a deputation of sixty of his brethren, repaired to the royal residence at Windsor, with a firm and manly remonstrance on the abuses of government, the insolence and oppression of the king's favourites, and on the intolerable burthens under which the metropolis and nation groaned : the weak king was so offended by this representation that he removed his court to Bristol, vowed vengeance against his capital by means of a Welch army, and compelled the inhabitants to arm in their defence. This wild attempt completely lost to Richard the affection of the citizens and laid the foundation of the commotions which deprived him of his dominions and his life.

London, however, gained some important advantages even during this ill-fated period : the courts of justice were transferred hither from York ; an act of parliament passed, declaring that the city liberties should not in future be liable to forfeiture for any erroneous judgment given, or other offence committed by the mayor, aldermen, or other magistrates. Sundry useful regulations were made respecting its cleanliness and salubrity. The extensive ward of Faringdon was divided into two, by which a twenty-fifth ward was constituted, and the rate at which each should be assessed to the public burthens was settled by the authority of parliament ; and whereas, hitherto the aldermen had been elected annually, it was enacted, that in future, they should remain in office during their good behaviour. An act was also passed for preventing frauds in the important article of malt, and for punishing impositions practised on graziers bringing

ing cattle to Smithfield market. A sufficient evidence of the concern the legislature began to take in the police as well as the government of the metropolis.

The streets of London were become so filthy at this time, that the parliament, in the year 1389, issued a proclamation, ordaining, "that no person whatsoever should presume to lay any dung, guts, garbage, offals, or other ordure, in any street, ditch, &c. upon the penalty of twenty pounds, to be recovered by an information in chancery." The parliament further to enforce the law against nuisances, afterwards ordained, "That all the filth of a certain lay-stall upon the bank of the river Thames, be forthwith removed; and that the butchers of London should, before the ensuing Easter, erect a house, or houses, in a proper place, to receive all their ordure; thence to be carried in boats into the middle of the said river, and to be thrown in at the turn of the tide at high water. And that no person should presume to throw any muck, rubbish, laystage, or other ordure, in at the sides of the said river, or lay any filth or nastiness on the banks of the same, between the palace of Westminster and the Tower of London, on the penalty of ten pounds."

In this reign also a great number of trading guilds or companies were incorporated. The Weavers' company is, without doubt, of great antiquity; and was probably the first in being, before corporations, in the legal and modern sense of the word, existed. Mr. Madox, in his *Firma Burgi*, relates, that the Weavers, Bakers, and Sadlers, were the most antient guilds or fellowships in London; a natural conclusion enough, since food and cloathing are most immediately necessary to mankind. In the ninth year of Richard II. a company of linen weavers, consisting of such as had been brought over from the Netherlands by Edward III. was first established; but they were so much molested by the Weavers company of London, that they never arrived to any considerable degree of success. Other companies were patronised and incorporated at different times, namely, the Goldsmiths, the Skinners, the Grocers, antiently called Pepperers, the Mercers, and the Salters.

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The polite arts seem also not to have been neglected, this being the era of finishing that noble structure, Westminster Hall*; and to shew the improved state of trade, in the year 1397 the mayor and commonality of London purchased the great range of building, since named Blackwell Hall, for the reception and sale of woollen cloths, to which purpose it has been ever since applied.

Richard having imprudently absented himself from the kingdom, to quell an insurrection in Ireland, Henry of Lancaster, under pretence of claiming his patrimonial estate, raised an army, and laid violent hands on the crown. Richard II. was deposed, and the consequent horrors arising from that deposition are finely described by the inimitable Shakespeare, in the prophetic exclamation of the worthy bishop of Carlisle, the only patriot who dared to shew his loyalty in parliament during so depraved and so rebellious an age:

My lord of Hereford here, whom you call king,
Is a foul traitor to proud Hereford's king,
And if you crown him, let me prophesy—
The blood of English shall manure the ground,
And future ages groan for this foul act;
Peace shall go sleep with Turks and infidels,
And, in this seat of peace, tumultuous wars
Shall kin with kin, and kind with kind confound;
Disorder, horror, fear, and mutiny,
Shall here inhabit, and this land be call'd
The field of Golgotha and dead men's skulls.
O, if you rear this house against this house,
It will the woefullest division prove,
That ever fell upon this cursed earth:
Prevent, resist it, let it not be so,
Lest children's children cry against you—wo!

LONDON

* Richard the second rebuilt Westminster Hall in its present form in 1397; and in 1399 kept his Christmas in it, with his characteristic magnificence. Twenty-eight oxen, three hundred sheep, and fowls without number, were daily consumed. The number of his guests each day were ten thousand. We need not wonder then, that Richard kept

LONDON, TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE REIGN OF
QUEEN ELIZABETH.

THE unopposed usurper of Richard's throne, Henry IV. considering the slender title he had to his dignity, not being the nearest heir, thought it his interest to conciliate the affection of those to whom he owed his exaltation; among others it was not thought prudent to neglect the metropolis; therefore as soon as the festivities of his coronation were ended, he urged the parliament, in 1400, to pass sundry laws highly beneficial to the citizens. The blank charters which were extorted from them by the late king's ministers were publicly burnt at Cheapside conduit; and certain statutes of Edward III. which seemed rather oppressive, were repealed; an extension of privilege, also, to merchants, relative to the package of goods, was granted, and the markets for provision, particularly fish, were subjected to many regulations*. In the year 1401 the city obtained a fresh charter, which conferred on the corporation and their successors, for ever, the custody of Newgate and Ludgate, as well as all the gates and posterns in the city; and at the same time they were constituted officers for collecting the tolls and customs in Cheap, Billingsgate, and Smithfield: besides tonnage or fee, for weighing sundry commodities particularly enumerated.

two thousand cooks, they certainly were deeply learned in their profession; witness the *Forme of Cury*, compiled about 1390, by the master cooks of this luxurious monarch, in which are preserved receipts for the most exquisite dishes of the time.

The Meuse at Charing Cross has been in use for keeping the king's falcons, at least from the time of Richard II. In that reign the accomplished Sir Simon Burley, knight of the garter, was keeper of the king's falcons at the Meuse, near Charing Cross. This office was, by Charles II. granted to his son by Nell Gwyn, Charles duke of St. Alban's, and the heirs male of his body. In the reign of Henry VIII. the king's horses were kept here. In 1534, an accident by fire destroyed the building, with a great quantity of hay, and several great horses. It was rebuilt in the reign of Edward VI. and queen Mary. In the year 1732 the present handsome edifice arose. *Pennant.*

* Stat. 1 Hen. IV. c. 15, 16.

We find, that in the year 1404, the woollen manufacture was hastening to become the staple of the country, and a law passed that, "all woollen cloths *made in London*, should be marked with a leaden seal affixed to each piece, to distinguish them from those of inferior texture, and prevent imposition in the sale." The general purposes of commerce began very materially to expand, and the restrictions upon the Lombards and other foreign merchants were gradually taken off; so that mutual jealousies subsided, and general trade assumed interests hitherto unknown. The country traders who had, till this time, been restrained from disposing of their property within the city, except to London merchants, were now allowed to vend their goods in a more liberal manner, and an English mercantile company denominated, *The Brotherhood of St. Thomas à Becket*, the most antient that can be traced, and which had been established towards the close of the thirteenth century, in 1406 received a charter of confirmation, under which it long flourished to the mutual interest of the adventurers and the country*.

The city obtained, likewise, the advantage of a decision in her favour, in opposition to Arundel, archbishop of Canterbury, and other interested persons, concerning the conservancy of the Thames, which was fully established †.

As far as concerns the affairs of London, the remainder of Henry's reign produced nothing memorable, except the foundation of the venerable structure which serves as the Guildhall, erected by Sir Thomas Knowles, Lord Mayor, 1411; and the renewal of a market, afterwards denominated Stocks Market, on the spot where now the Mansion House is situated.

Previously to his decease Henry had lost much of his popularity; and the extravagant conduct of his son, whilst

* *Anderson's Commerce.*

† It is remarkable that this prelate who felt no pity or remorse at adjudging to the stake poor Sautré for having the sense not to swallow a palpable theological absurdity, could enter seriously into the right of property of the fry in the Thames, and maintain a tedious and expensive litigation to obtain it! *Hunter*

Prince of Wales, did not at first shew him worthy of the monarchy he was destined to fill; but never did prince more nobly expiate his youthful excesses; by a government worthy of his virtue, nor more ably exhibit the qualities of a wise, good, and great king. We regret the age of bigotry in which he lived, when the sanguinary severity of an unrelenting prelate, the unamiable Arundel, was exercised in the abominable prosecution of Sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham, the most valiant and virtuous nobleman of his day. We avert from the horrid scene, and view the more masterly portrait of the renowned HERO OF AGINCOURT!

Henry the fifth's reign was an era of happiness to London. Her streets vied in splendor and loyalty on his victorious return from conquest; a similar display of honour was bestowed on the emperor Sigismund, who paid Henry a visit at his own court, some time after, as a mediator for peace between England and France.

The internal improvements of the city during this period were also very considerable. A new gate was built leading to the waste in Finsbury manor, since called Moorfields, and the edifice Moorgate. Holborn, one of the great inlets to the city, was first paved; and lanterns hung up to light the streets. In 1419 Leadenhall was erected at the sole expence of the liberal minded Sir Simon Eyre, during the mayoralty of the famous Sir Richard Whittington, who himself had been a generous benefactor of several public works to the city; Leadenhall was intended by Sir Simon as a public granary in cases of scarcity; no information has been obtained why it failed in its destination.

The country was deprived of this glorious and excellent king by death, in 1422, leaving an infant heir only eight months old.

During the Protectorate of the great duke of Bedford, in the infancy of Henry VI. London experienced the benefit of his government by the many embellishments which she received. The prison of Newgate, which was previously a miserable dungeon, was rebuilt by Sir Richard Whittington, who also founded a college of priests called after his name, with an almshouse;

almshouse; besides making additions to St. Bartholomew's Hospital; he built a beautiful library for the Grey Friars, since called Christ's Hospital, Guildhall chapel, and a great part of the east end of Guildhall. This worthy character served the office of mayor three times, 1397, 1406, and 1419*. As a proof also of the increase and population of the city at this time, water conduits were erected at Billingsgate, Paul's Wharf, and St. Giles, Cripplegate. Indeed by the known ability and wisdom of the infant king's uncles who had attained the full maturity of understanding, enlarged by experience, the city as well as the whole realm, at this time wore the appearance of peace and prosperity; till the restless ambition of his great uncle, the turbulent bishop, afterwards cardinal, Beaufort, aimed at sole and tyrannic dominion. He formed a design to surprise the city on the day of festivity, whilst the citizens were occupied in the annual confir-

* The vulgar tradition of Whittington, and of the poverty of his youth, are fully refuted by a perusal of the charter of foundation belonging to Whittington's college, where it is ordained that prayers should be said for the good estate of Richard Whittington and Alice his wife, the founders; and Sir William Whittington, *knight*, and *dame* Joan his wife; and for Hugh Fitz-Warren and *dame* Molde (or Maud) his wife, the fathers and mothers of the said Richard Whittington and Alice his wife, and for king Richard II. and Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, special lords and promoters of the said Whittington, &c. *Strype's Stow.* Granger in his Biographical History, says, that the cat in his print by Elstracke, was substituted for a scull originally there, as the common people did not chuse to purchase the print without their favourite traditional emblem. A modern writer has endeavoured to reconcile the story of the cat, by observing that Sir Richard had sent out a ship bearing that name, which returning prosperously, constituted the story of Whittington and his cat. The bones of this eminent magistrate were several times buried; first by his executors under a fair monument; then, in the reign of Edward VI. the parson of St. Michael Pater-noster, thinking some great riches, as he said, were buried with him, caused his monument to be broken, and his body to be spoiled of his leaden shirt, and again the second time to be buried. And in the reign of queen Mary, the parishioners were forced to take him up, to wrap him in lead, as before, to bury him the third time, and to place his monument or the like over him again; thus he rested till the fire of London violated his resting place again. *Strype's Stow.* . ♦

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mation of the chief magistrate into his office; and at a very early hour, a multitude of the bishop's party endeavoured to force their way into the city from Southwark; but John de Coventry, the mayor, by his prudent conduct, repelled the treason without effusion of blood; it being impossible, however, to effect a reconciliation between the duke of Gloucester, deputy lord Protector, and the cardinal, the regent, Bedford, found it necessary to return from France, to preserve the public tranquillity by his presence and authority. The citizens met him at Merton, whence he was conducted by the lord mayor and corporation, on horseback, through Westminster with great state, and presented with one thousand marks of gold in two silver ewers.

The public spirited conduct of another chief magistrate at this time is well worthy of being recorded. Sir John Rainewell, mayor in 1426, having received information against the Lombard merchants, that they were guilty of mal-practices in the adulteration of wines; and finding, upon enquiry, that the charge was well founded, he ordered that the noxious compound, to the quantity of one hundred and fifty butts, should be thrown into the kennel. He expressed his benevolence by bestowing certain lands and tenements, towards discharging a heavy parliamentary tax, denominated the Fifteenths, for the ease of the poorer classes of inhabitants in the wards of Aldgate, Bishopsgate, and Dowgate.

An instance of liberality in the highest class of subjects also merits our attention. The magnificent edifice, Baynard's Castle, having been destroyed by fire, in 1428, was immediately restored in more than its former splendor by the duke of Gloucester, eminently distinguished as the good duke Humphrey.

This year is also remarkable for the repeal of two very obnoxious statutes. "From time immemorial, and by an express law of Edward the Confessor, London had claimed and exercised *the privilege of conferring liberty on servants*, that is, on slaves, *who should reside for a year and a day, within the city, unreclaimed by their lords*. This was now solemnly recognized, and extended to all other cities, walled boroughs, and castles.

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The other offensive and odious statute, which had been imposed in the reign of Henry IV. enacted, *That no person whatever, not possessed of land to the annual amount of 20s. should be at liberty to put out a child or children, as apprentice to any trade; and the tradesman taking such unqualified person an apprentice to any trade was subjected to a grievous penalty**. London had the honour to apply first to parliament for a repeal, and happily prevailed; the spirit of manufacture and commerce began to undermine the proud fabric of feudal subjugation, and ultimately succeeded in its abolition.

From the year 1431 to 1447 nothing very particular occurs which is worthy of notice at this distant period; minute particulars of improvement, such as additional conduits, &c. might be objects of consideration, but their memory being obliterated, no other importance can be attached to them now, except a recollection of private munificence, in addition to the wisdom and generosity of the corporation.

We are however under the painful necessity of departing in a small degree from our plan, to relate a circumstance of private revenge and atrocious murder which reflects disgrace on the English annals; and it was perpetrated on a principal benefactor to the city.

The good duke Humphrey of Gloucester, the amiable brother of Henry V. the patron of learning, the friend of his country, and the lover of justice, had long repelled the base and ambitious designs of cardinal Beaufort; but, as an enlightened modern historian writes†: “The cardinal had gained an entire ascendancy over the mind of the young king, who, from the weakness of his capacity, and the jealousy of his disposition, was easily induced to believe that the duke of Gloucester intended to keep him in perpetual dependence, and even raised his ambitious views to the throne itself. Influenced by this prejudice, Henry had conceived a violent aversion to his uncle, and constantly opposed every proposal which the duke had made in council.

* Stat. 7. Hen. IV. c. 17.

† Lyttleton

“ The court was divided into two parties, that of the cardinal, and that of the duke of Gloucester ; and though the former had gained an ascendant over the latter, the superiority was not so considerable but that it might be easily destroyed, and even the balance cast upon the other side by the interest of a queen, provided she was a woman of capacity and address. Each party, therefore, was extremely desirous of having the honour to provide their prince with a consort, as it was more than probable that this circumstance would for ever decide the victory between them. The duke of Gloucester recommended a daughter of the count d’Armagnac ; but he had not credit to accomplish his purpose. The cardinal and his friends had cast their eye on Margaret of Anjou, daughter of Regnier, nominal king of Sicily, Naples, and Jerusalem, descended from the count of Anjou, brother of Charles V. who had bequeathed these pompous titles to his posterity without any real power or possessions.

“ As soon as Margaret arrived in England, she entered into a close correspondence with the cardinal of Winchester, and the dukes of Somerset, Suffolk, and Buckingham, who, strengthened by her friendship, and animated by their common hatred against the duke of Gloucester, resolved to effect the ruin of that worthy and patriotic nobleman. Gloucester, baffled in all his attempts for the service of the public, and chagrined at the increasing power of his enemies, had already received a most cruel mortification, which though he had hitherto borne with great patience, it was absolutely impossible for a man of his high spirit and generous disposition entirely to forget. His dutchess, the daughter of Reginald, lord Cobham, had been accused of witchcraft ; and it was alledged, that a waxen image of the king was found in her custody, which she and her accomplices, Sir Roger Bolingbroke a priest, and one Margery Jordan of Eye, melted in a magical manner before a slow fire, with an intention of making Henry’s strength and vigour waste away by the same insensible degrees.

“ This accusation was well calculated to make an impression upon the weak and timid mind of the king, and to gain

belief in an ignorant and credulous age, the duchess and her accomplices were brought to trial: the nature of the crime, so inconsistent with all the dictates of common sense, seems ever to have exempted the accusers from observing the rules of common sense in giving their evidence: upon the testimony of two other priests, who had found means to insinuate themselves into the cabal, and who swore solemnly to the circumstance of the image, the prisoners were declared guilty: the duchess was sentenced to public penance for three days successively, by walking barefoot and bareheaded, with a wax taper in her hand, through the streets, to St. Paul's church; and then to be imprisoned for life: several of her confederates were capitally punished.

“The duke's enemies imagined, that this public exposure would either ruin his popularity, or provoke him to adopt some step against the government, which might furnish them with a plea for accusing him of high-treason: but they were deceived in their expectation. Gloucester was so firmly attached to the person and interest of his nephew, that no provocation could shake his loyalty: he bore his injuries with the utmost patience and resignation; and the disgrace of his lady, instead of destroying his credit with the people, served only to incense them against his adversaries. Winchester and his party finding themselves disappointed in this attempt, resolved to have recourse to a more summary and certain method of accomplishing their purpose; and by a secret and violent death to rid themselves of a man, whose popularity might prove dangerous to their power, and whose resentment they had so much reason to apprehend.

“With this view, a parliament was summoned to meet, not at London, which was supposed to be too much in the duke's interest, but at St. Edmundsbury, where they hoped they should be able to perpetrate the infernal deed with equal ease and impunity. As soon as Gloucester appeared he was arrested, accused of high-treason, and thrown into prison. After having been confined for seventeen days without any trial, he was found dead in his bed, on the 28th of February; and,

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though his death was pretended to have been natural, the impartial world believed he had fallen a sacrifice to the cruelty and vengeance of his enemies.

“ His body, indeed, which was exposed three days successively, displayed no external marks of violence; but the same artifice had been practised on Edward II. Richard II. and on Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; and the repetition of the deceit, instead of removing the scruples of the people, tended only to strengthen their suspicions, and to make them conclude with the greater certainty that Humphry had undergone the fate of his unhappy ancestors.

“ Soon after, Sir Roger Chamberlayn, Richard Middleton, Thomas Herbert, Richard and Arthur Needham, with several other gentlemen of the duke's family, were brought to trial for aiding him in his supposed treasons, and condemned to be hanged, drawn, and quartered. Accordingly they were conducted through the city on sledges to the place of execution, hanged by the necks for a considerable time, cut down with some remains of life, stripped naked, and their bodies marked with a knife, in order to their being quartered; but just as the executioner was proceeding to the last part of his office, a pardon was produced, and the unhappy sufferers were restored to life: a species of mercy of such a barbarous and savage nature, as, in the opinion of every humane and generous person, ought certainly to have entitled the authors of it to the same cruel and disgraceful punishment which they inflicted on the supposed delinquents.

“ Henry himself was not suspected of having had any share in the murder of his uncle, which was universally ascribed to the contrivance of the queen, the cardinal, and the duke of Suffolk; all of whom, on that account, were assailed by the people with the most bitter imprecations.”

The mal-administration of the queen and her favourites having excited popular alarm and discontent, several tumults of inferior note, gave way to an insurrection so formidable, as apparently to shake the throne, and even royalty itself, to the foundation. The violence of the queen against the people of Kent, for the decollation of her minion the duke of

Suffolk, broke out into such extravagance, and was carried to so high a pitch of resentment, as to rouse the people to arms: hence arose the rebellion of John Cade, who having assembled a considerable force, under the popular pretext of reformation; encamped at Blackheath, and assumed the name of Mortimer, as a lure to the adherents of that family, as well as to those who favoured the interests of the house of York.

Cade, by his courage, capacity, and spirit, was extremely well qualified for such an undertaking; and repairing to the county of Kent, in which the duke of York had a great number of adherents, he collected a strong body of malcontents. The king, apprized of this insurrection, sent a confidential person to demand the cause of their hostile appearance; Cade, in the name of his followers, replied, "that they had no intention to injure the person of his majesty; they only meant to petition the parliament, that evil ministers might be removed from their places, and brought to their merited punishment: and that the people might be eased of those intolerable taxes with which they were now oppressed." They accordingly presented two petitions to parliament, stating the grievances which ought to be redressed; positively insisting that the duke of Somerset should be punished for the loss of Normandy; and that the king's council might be composed of the princes of the blood, and other persons of integrity and ability.

These remonstrances being imparted to the king, the council condemned them as arrogant and seditious, and resolved to suppress the rebellion by force of arms. Henry, having assembled a body of fifteen thousand men, advanced at their head towards Blackheath. At his approach Cade retired, as if he had been afraid of a battle, and lay in ambush in a wood, not doubting but that he should be followed by the king's whole army; but Henry, supposing they were entirely dispersed, retired to London, after having detached a small party in pursuit of the fugitives, under the command of Sir Humphry Stafford, who, falling into the ambuscade, was put to the sword with all his followers. Having obtained this advantage, Cade directed his march towards London,

while the king and council retired hastily to Kenilworth-castle for safety, after having left a strong garrison in the Tower, under the command of lord Scales. The citizens of London, alarmed at the success of the rebels, opened the gates at their approach; and Cade entered in triumph at the head of his troops, which had been greatly augmented since his victory, but charged his men, on pain of the severest penalties, not to be guilty of any outrage, or to give the inhabitants the least cause of offence. On the following day, hearing that the treasurer, lord Say, was in the city, he ordered him to be seized and beheaded, without any form of trial; and, in the evening, retired to the borough of Southwark.

He thus continued for several days, to enter the city in the morning, and retire from it at night, that he might not give offence to the inhabitants, with whom he lived at first on very friendly terms. But, at length, the rebels having pilaged some houses, and committed other outrages, Cade one morning found the gate of the bridge shut and barricadoed against him. Attempting to force a passage, a battle ensued between the insurgents and the citizens, both of whom maintained the fight with considerable obstinacy, till night terminated the combat.

The archbishop of Canterbury, and the chancellor, who had retired to the Tower, being informed by their emissaries that the insurgents were greatly dispirited by this repulse, and heartily tired of their rebellious project, drew up a general pardon, confirmed by the sanction of the great seal, and found means to publish it by night in the borough of Southwark. This expedient was attended with the desired effect. The rebels, glad of an opportunity to escape the punishment merited by their crimes, deserted in such numbers, that by day-break Cade found himself almost alone, and was obliged to take shelter in the woods of Kent and Sussex, where, a price being fixed upon his head, he was at last discovered and killed by Alexander Iden, who, for this service, was rewarded with the government of Dover Castle.*

* *Lyttleton's History of England.*

In consequence of the service performed by the citizens on this trying occasion, their chief magistrate, Sir Godfrey Fielding, was nominated one of the privy council.

The annual procession by water on Lord Mayor's day commenced at this time. In 1454, Sir John Norman, Lord Mayor elect, built a magnificent barge for the use and honor of his mayoralty ; before his time it was usual for the chief magistrate and his train to go to Westminster Hall, on horse-back. The companies followed Norman's example and constructed elegant vessels to accompany their mayors. The watermen were so elated by this circumstance that they caused a commemoration song to be composed on the occasion, beginning, " Row thy boat, Norman," &c. " Thus the element to which London owes all its greatness began to exhibit the yearly spectacle of a harmless naval festivity, the delight of myriads to this day, after a lapse of three centuries and a half."

Irregularity of conduct and rudeness of manners having been the ruling features of these times, impelled the well disposed to apply a partial remedy ; for this purpose, in 1456, a petition, from four of the London clergy *, to Parliament was productive of the foundation of four grammar schools, in the parishes of Great Alhallows, St. Andrew Holborn, St. Peter Cornhill, and St. Mary Colechurch. This benevolent example incited the archbishop of Canterbury, and Kempe, bishop of London, to obtain the king's letters patent, nine years afterwards, for the foundation of other seminaries of learning in St. Paul's Church Yard, the collegiate church of St. Martin's le Grand, St. Mary le Bow, St. Dunstan's in the East, and the Hospital of St. Anthony. These schools, however, were not upon so liberal an establishment as those of later times ; for though they were public and common, they could not be called free, because only such boys were

* These worthy clergymen were Maistre William Lycchefeld, parson of the parish churche of Al-Hallowen the More ; Maistre Gilbert, parson of Seint Andrew, Holbourne, in the suburbs ; Maistre John Cote, parson of St. Petre in Cornhill ; and John Neel, maistre of the Hous or Hospital of St. Thomas of Acres and parson of Colchirche. *Strype's Surv.*

admitted as were of good talents, and whose schooling was paid by the nobility and the richer citizens; the latter are the benevolent foundations of pious persons, who took care that a competent maintenance should be settled on the various preceptors, "on condition to teach such a number of the children of the parish where they are built, *freely, without taking any salary or reward from their parents and friends.*"

A circumstance occurred about this time, which caused great agitation in the city. The clergy of London having obtained a grant from the Pope, in the year 1453, to levy certain rates or offerings on the laity, it gave rise to many disputes between them and their respective parishioners: but, in the year 1457, these disputes were finally adjusted, by the laity agreeing to pay, and the clergy to accept, the following composition:

The Composition of all Offerings within the City of London, and Suburbs of the same.

"First, that every person, dweller and inhabitant in any house in London, or its suburbs, who hireth and occupieth the same at ten shillings *per annum*, shall offer to God, and to the church in whose parish such house standeth, one farthing on each of the first days hereafter mentioned, viz. on every Sunday in the year, and principal saints days: to be kept for all the churches in London from henceforward, on the third of October yearly, and also on the patron's day of each church in London and its suburbs. And if such inhabited houses be let for twenty shillings, to pay two farthings or a halfpenny; or if for thirty shillings, to pay three farthings; if for forty shillings, to pay one penny; if for fifty shillings, to pay one penny farthing. And so every sum, ascending and descending by ten shillings, into what sum soever, shall always offer one farthing, after the rate of ten shillings, at the foresaid feasts. And he who rents houses in divers parishes within London and its suburbs, shall pay or offer the same, for each house, to the church in which parish it stands. Provided that should it happen two of the said feasts fall on one day, the offering shall be only for one day. That a
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house rented at six shillings and eight-pence, shall offer only four times in the year, on the four principal feasts of the church, of which he is a parishioner. And all above six shillings and eight pence, and under ten shillings, to pay one penny farthing once a year. Provided always, that if the said dweller go before the curate, and there declare, upon his faith and truth, that he may not pay his said money according to the ordinance aforesaid, being within ten shillings, that the said curate shall not holden him, aught or naught, and the dweller thereupon shall be quit. Also, if the rent of the house exceeds ten shillings, and does not amount to thirty shillings, and so to any sum being between ten and thirty shillings, the inhabitant shall pay to the curate five farthings for every shilling of the said sum that shall be between ten and thirty. Where a house is taken together, and afterwards laid out into apartments for divers people, then the person who took the whole house, and inhabiteth the principal part thereof, shall pay an offering to his parish church for the whole rent, if the said house be inhabited and occupied as dwelling-places. But if the person, who rents the whole house, does not dwell in any part thereof, and lets it out again, then he that dwelleth in the principal part shall offer all, and the rest four-pence by the year. Also every warehouse, shop, cellar, wharf, stable, crane, ground, garden, or place, shall pay, for every pound they be let for, sixpence, offering to the curate of the church, in which they shall stand, without any other offering; and three-pence for ten shillings *per annum* rent; and more or less as they shall be let for more or less than ten shillings *per annum*. It was also provided, that all apprentices and servants, and hired men within the said city, not charged with such rent and houses, which shall be housholder at Easter, or about Easter, shall four times in the year, at the four principal feasts, offer to God and to the church. Also as for personal tythes, the parishioners are neither charged nor discharged; saving that hereafter no curate shall vex, trouble, sue, or deny sacraments or service for non-payment of the same; but leave them to the piety and conscience of the
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the parishioners. Also all proceedings or suits, hitherto carried on for tythes or offerings before this day, shall stop and never be brought into controversy any more; but all such things, done before this day, shall be remitted and forgiven by both parties."

The above curious particular, displays the value of houses, as well as the mode of rating at the above period.

The turbulent reign of the imbecile Henry, and that of his rival Edward IV. contain matter too inconsistent with the peaceful pursuits of improvement; and to behold the feet of a good man, though a weak king, tied under a horse's belly, and dragged in derision through the streets of London, to the Tower, where he was afterwards murdered, cannot be gratifying to the polished and humane consideration of a more enlightened period.

In 1473, the present mode of electing the chief magistrate and sheriffs took place, and respectability, virtue, and wisdom, seem to have resumed their power; the police was improved, and Sir William Hampton, the lord mayor, finding that, from the incsease of offenders, the stocks erected in the place now occupied by the Mansion House, were not sufficient, ordered additional ones to be erected in every ward.

About this period, the valuable and important art of printing was introduced by Mr. William Caxton, citizen and mercer, who is justly ranked among the most eminent benefactors of his country*.

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* His fifty-sixth year had elapsed before he applied to the printing business; but such was his zeal, application, and perseverance, that he acquired, "at grete charge and dispense," to use his own words, so complete a knowledge of the new and admired art of typography, that he actually printed, A. D. 1471, at Cologne, a book which he had translated from French into English, entitled, *The Recule of the Histories of Troye*. He came over to England the year after, and brought with him this and other printed books, as specimens of his skill in the art. Under the patronage of Thomas Milling, abbot of Westminster, he set a press to work, A. D. 1473, in the Almonry of Westminster Abbey, where he produced, in March 1474, a little book, which he translated from the French, called "*The Game at Chess*:" and this is the

The year 1476 was productive of an additional improvement in the city, through the patriotic endeavour of Sir Ralph Joceline, lord mayor. This public spirited magistrate obtained an act of common council for repairing the city walls with brick, made of earth, tempered and burnt in Moorfields; the expence to be defrayed by a weekly assessment of six-pence per head on the inhabitants of the several parishes. Knowing the powerful influence of example, he prevailed with his own company, the Drapers, to undertake and finish the portion between Bishopsgate and Allhallows on the Wall, as far as Moorgate; the Skinners undertook the portion between Aldgate and Bevis Marks; the executors of Sir John Crosby repaired a fourth part; and the other companies completed the wall as far as Cripplegate and Aldersgate: Sir Ralph also in his mayoralty corrected the bakers and victuallers. Indeed, this seems to have been a year of benefactions; for we find that Richard Rawson, one of the sheriffs, "bequeathed considerable sums to the prisons, lazaret-houses, and hospitals, for the relief of the poor, and for the preservation of the highways and water-conduits, besides three hundred and forty pounds to portion out a certain number of poor maidens in marriage."

Edward's government, towards its conclusion, was stained with the gross est enormities and excesses. The reign of Edward V. or rather the tyranny of his depraved uncle Richard, whose crimes were without remorse, and whose cruelty was unaccompanied by pity, is scarcely a subject for the historian of London; except to relate the conduct of

the first book ever printed in England. His second production was a translation by the earl of Rivers, of a collection of the *Dicta Philosophorum*, a fair copy of which translation, is said to be preserved in the archiepiscopal library at Lambeth, embellished with an illuminated drawing, which represents the Earl introducing Caxton to Edward IV. his queen, and the prince; an engraved copy of which, the late Earl of Oxford, prefixed as a frontispiece to his Catalogue of Royal and Noble Authors. From this period to that of his death in 1491, Caxton applied himself so indefatigably to the work of translating and printing, that he published about fifty books, some of them very large volumes, and many of them his own productions. BIOG. BRIT. ART. CAXTON.

a chief magistrate, Sir Edmund Shaw, who proselyted himself on the side of usurpation ; and was base enough to engage his brother, an eminent clergyman at that time, to delude the public by his sermon at Paul's Cross, with the opinion that the late king and his brothers were the illegitimate offspring of the Duke of York, and that the present uncle and protector of the young king and his brother, was the only true and legitimate heir of the house of York. This harangue, however, was received by the populace with the contempt it deserved. But Richard had proceeded too far in the road of blood to recede from his villainous purpose : what could not be accomplished at St. Paul's Cross by preaching, was contrived at Guildhall, by the Duke of Buckingham ; and in consequence of some of the rabble crying out, " God save king Richard," a solemn farce was succeeded by one of the bloodiest tragedies which stains the page of history, and excites the wonder of posterity. The salutary laws which Richard passed after his assumption of the crown, are not to be attributed to any innate principle of humanity or justice ; they were the effect of fear and apprehension ; for the tyrant, on examining his exchequer, found it exhausted ; the consolation afforded by his conscience was very slender ; and all that he beheld inspired doubt and suspicion. Under such circumstances, to resort to a tax, under the denomination of a *benevolence*, which proved oppressive, and the employment of persons to exact it, who executed their commission despotically, sufficiently cooled the wavering minds of the citizens ; and as they ever had considered his advancement to the throne with horror, they more readily countenanced his rival Henry, Earl of Richmond. The death of Richard in Bosworth Field was not lamented ; and the Earl of Richmond was joyfully received by the citizens, as their future monarch, by the title of Henry VII.

This king, was not of a conciliatory disposition, and the city of London did not gain much by his selfish and narrow-minded government ; we must not, however, pass over one act of his prudent liberality ; he re-built the royal mansion of Baynard's Castle, which had suffered in the civil wars, and

embellished it in a magnificent manner. But the structure has wholly disappeared, and we have only its remembrance, in the name of the ward where it was situated.

In 1488, the parliament passed a very salutary act for the healthfulness and convenience of the capital, by which the slaughtering of cattle was prevented within its precincts, as an intolerable nuisance; the same parliament also confirmed the city's right to the conservancy of the river Thames.

The year 1493, was remarkable for an act of Henry's resentment, which occasioned a severe blow to trade. The Duchess of Burgundy's protection of Perkin Warbeck, so irritated the king, that he strictly forbade every species of commerce between England and Burgundy, which occasioned the greatest distress to the English Merchants Adventurers; more especially, as the Hanseatic merchants took the advantage of importing foreign merchandize, to the detriment of the English trader. A commotion was the consequence; their hall and warehouses in Thames Street were plundered by the populace: several of whom were afterwards convicted, and suffered death for the offence.

That the city was in high favour with the court at this period, is evident from the account of Robert Fabian, sheriff, and author of the Chronicle, which goes under his name. Henry gave a sumptuous entertainment at Westminster to Ralph Anstry, the lord mayor, whom he knighted on the occasion, accompanied by the whole court of aldermen, and a great number of the commonalty; the revelry of which continued till next morning at day-light: but the avaricious Henry soon made the city pay for this conviviality, by extorting, through the means of the infamous Empson and Dudley, prodigious sums, upon the most scandalous and oppressive expedients*.

But

* One of their earliest victims was Sir William Capel, an alderman of London, who, under sundry obsolete penal statutes, was convicted, and adjudged to pay a fine of 2,700*l.* which by powerful intercession was mitigated to 1,600*l.* In executing these detestable purposes, the very fountain of equity was poisoned; juries were packed, were calumniated, were menaced, and bribed into the commission of perjury; and the

But the citizens, ever loyal, though always suffering, not only opened their purse strings to supply the king's exigencies upon the report of Perkin Warbeck's invasion from Scotland; but though law was set aside; though the king's authority was assumed by his minions to sanction the grossest acts of oppression, so that the malignant scourge of rebellion burst from its den, and on its appearance in Cornwall, Lord Audley, with a part of the disaffected, appeared before the gates of London, and threw the city into confusion; yet by the prudent and gallant conduct of the lord mayor, and sheriffs, the public peace was duly maintained, and the city ably defended; the king was enabled to place himself at the head of the royal army, and, by the joint endeavours of the citizens and his other subjects, to re-establish himself on a throne which he did not deserve.

An act of public generosity performed by a patriotic individual, in the year 1495, is of too much importance, not to have a distinguished place in our annals. Sir Henry Colet, father of the beneficent founder of St. Paul's School, who, during his second mayoralty, had effectually preserved the peace of the city, when the Cornish rebels had threatened its demolition, signalized his disinterested loyalty, by giving his personal security in support of his sovereign's honour, at the time that the rest of the corporation, had refused to join as hostages for a treaty of peace and mercantile intercourse between England and Flanders. The transaction is thus recorded:

"In the month of Febr. xi. Hen. VII. was concluded an *amye* and *entrecourse* between this land and *Flaunders*; and for the assurance of the same, above and besyde both the *seles* of eyther prynces, was granted to dyverse townys of this lande to be bounde, among the whiche London was one: which

the subject's great security for life and property was converted into the means of attacking both the one and the other. The abuse had become so flagrant, that parliament found it necessary to interpose, by defining the qualifications of London jurors, and by enacting additional penalties to be inflicted on the crimes of perjury and bribery in persons serving on juries. *Stat. at Large*, 11 H. VII.

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stealing, when it sholde have been perfourmed, the commons of the citie wolde not be agreable theyr sele sholde passe: and albeit that my Lord Derby, my Lord Tresorer, the *Chyef Justyce of England*, Maister *Bray*, and the *Maister of the Rolls*, by the king's commandment, came to Guildhall, to extorte the sayd commons for the same; yet in no wyse they wolde not be agreable that the towne sele sholde pass, but besought the sayd lordes to grant unto thyn respite of vi dayes, trustyng in that season to shew in writyng soch consyderacyons unto the king's grace and his counsaill, that his grace sholde be therewith well contented: whiche was to thym graunted, and thereupon dyvers billes were dyvysed. Albeit, that for the hasty spede of my *Lorde Chamberleyne*, which at that tyme was redy to departe to *Caleys*, to kepe suche appoyntment as was before concluded, the *mayrs* sele was taken only, as in the maner folowith:

“ TO ALL CHRYSTEN PEOPLE, these present letters beholding or heryng, HENRY COLET, knyght, nowe mayor of the cite of LONDON, in the relme of ENGLAND, helth in our Lorde everlastyng. Where as bi twene the high and myghty prynce, my soveragne Lorde HENRY, by the grace of God, king of *England* and of France, and Lorde of Iro-land, on that one partye, and the noble prynce Phelyp, Tharchduke of Austrey, and Duke of Burgoyne on the other party; certayne treatyes of amyte and intercourse of merchandysing and other communicacyon of merchaunts concernyng the profyte of both prynces, theyr relmes and sub- jettes, the xxiii daye of the month of Februarye last past, at London, were finally concluded and determyned. Knowe ye me the say'd HENRY, at the requeste and commandment of my said soveragne lorde, and at the contemplacyon of his letters to me in that behalfe directed and delyvered of good faythe, to have promysed and ME AND MYN HEIRS, to the sayd Prynce *Phelyp*, Tharchduke to his heyres and suc- cessours, under PLEGGE and BOND OF ALL MY GOODS PRE- SENT AND TO COME, to have bound and by thes presents promyse and bynde that I shall procure, instaunce, and, as moche as in me is, shall do, that the same my lord the kyng,
his

his heyres and successours, all the sayd entrecourse and amyte, and all and singular in the same conteyned and specyfyed, well, fully, and truly shall holde, observe, and fullfyll; and, by his subyettes and servants in that theym concerne, well and truly shall do, to be holdyn, observed, and fullfyllled; and to the contrarient doers and brekers of the same, shall ministre, or doo to be ministred, justice. In witnes whereof, the seale of armes of me the sayd HENRY to these presents I have put, wryten at London, the fyrst daye of the moneth of Maye, in the year of our Lord God, M CCCC XCVI, and the XI yere of the reygne of my sayd soveragn Lord Henry the VII*."

The dangerous state to which the metropolis had been exposed during the Cornish revolt, suggested a plan for a more permanent mode of general defence, than had hitherto been established; for this purpose, some cultivated land in Finsbury manor, was laid out into fields, which were inclosed for the use of archers, and thence called the Artillery Ground, which to the present period bears the same name, and answers the same purpose.

The year 1498 was propitious to the commerce of the London merchants with those of Flanders. The Archduke Philip sent commissioners to London to settle the terms of accommodation; which Henry, ever alive to his interest, had acceded to, though resentful against the Duchess of Burgundy for the active part she had taken to embitter his government; nor would he give his entire consent, till a provision was inserted in the treaty, "that no English rebel should be harboured in the Low Countries," in which was particularly comprehended the demesnes of the Duchess, who had been Warbeck's great patroness. The Flemings were so gratified by this participation of interests, that they denominated it *Intercursus Magnus*: the English merchants were received with public honours when they returned to Antwerp to resume their functions—they entered in procession, and both parties welcomed reviving commerce with every expression of mutual satisfaction and joy.

* MSS. Cotton. Vitell. A. 16.

Sir John Shaw, the chief magistrate in 1503, erected spacious apartments in Guildhall, for the accommodation of the city magistrates and their company on public festivals, suitable to their dignity and opulence; before this time, the Grocer's Hall had been the place appointed for civic entertainments. This year also, the ancient river of Wells (afterwards called Fleet Ditch) was cleared and made navigable for small craft to Oldbourn Bridge; Houndsditch also, which had obtained its name from the carrion cast into it, and was besides a public nuisance, now partook its share of improvement, and was arched over and paved.

The insatiable Henry wishing to exact the enormous sum of five thousand marks from the citizens, gulled them into a compliance with his extortion, by a fresh charter of confirmation, which checked the encroachments of foreign merchants, regulated the qualifications of brokers, renewed the city's right to the office of gauger, and as a protection to the woollen trade, established "The fellowship of Merchant Adventurers of England," and ultimately prohibited the Merchants of the Steel-Yard, from exporting cloths to the Low Countries.

The last acts of Henry's life were proportionably consistent with those of the preceding; for the spirit of extortion, cruelty and aggression, kept pace with his superstition, even his pretended piety, generosity, and compassion, were bestowed at the public expence. The beautiful and stately pile at the east end of Westminster Abbey, on which this monarch's name is imposed, as well as other religious edifices which he reared, proceeded only from religious terror, unaided by compunction*. He died as he had lived, with a conscience which had a fearful reckoning to settle; and a dismal prospect of futurity.

Their

* Thomas Knesworth, two years after his mayoralty had been honorably terminated, with Shore and Groves, the sheriffs, were under a plea of malversation in office, thrown into the Marshalsea, and, without form of process, obliged to purchase their pardon by the payment of 1,400*l*. Christopher Hawes, alderman, was indicted and cast into prison;

There was no part of the structures in England built with brick, except the chimnies, before the time of Henry VII. and even these were chiefly in monasteries, or the houses of the nobility, as at Oldford, which was a royal residence, Brook House at Hackney, a fabric called King John's Court, near Stepney, and others, which were erected in this reign, all built in the same form with brick.

It was in this reign, also, that the method of flint-building, regularity of construction, and the use of brick from Italy commenced; an eminent Florentine was architect to Henry VII. and the English bricklayers, were ingenious in their profession. Many specimens of their ability are discernible at present among the various ancient buildings, in the vicinity of the metropolis, which are not to be exceeded in Europe, for variety and excellent workmanship.

During the impetuous, profuse, and thoughtless government of Henry VIII. the city indulged itself in all the pageantry of splendid and expensive spectacles, and according to the taste of the age, partook of the gaudy extravagance of the court. But though the libations at the altar of fancy were so many and various, the more essential comforts of the metropolis were not forgotten. From the neglected state of agriculture, the country had often severely felt the scarcity of corn, and London had always been a considerable sufferer. To remedy so serious an evil, Roger Achily rendered his mayoralty in 1511, remarkable, by the prudent foresight he exercised in storing Leadenhall, the city granary,

prison; and being a man of great timidity and irresolution, died of a broken heart before his trial came to an issue. Sir Lawrence Aylmer, who had likewise served the office of mayor, and his two sheriffs, were condemned in heavy fines, and committed to prison till payment should be made. Sir William Capel, already mentioned, who had served the office of mayor in 1503, was seized five years afterwards, under pretence of neglect of duty in prosecuting certain crimes dilated to him, and was mulcted 2,000l.; and, for daring to murmur at the iniquity of such a decision, was committed close prisoner to the Tower, where he remained till the death of the king delivered him, and many others, from the hands of oppression. *Hunter.*

with

with every species of grain. He likewise caused Moorfields to be levelled, and the passage to the adjoining villages rendered more commodious, by raising causeways and building bridges, as the situation of the ground required. Works of this nature claim the fairest title to the gratitude of posterity.

The introduction of luxury induced an attention to the sciences, which came in for their share of consideration; and as they contributed to refinement, now began to be cultivated and encouraged. Medicine in particular, having fallen into the hands of regular practitioners, attracted the attention, and obtained the support of the legislature. By an act of the third year of Henry VIII. "It was declared illegal to practise physic or surgery * within the city of London, and

* It will be very curious to turn back from our times to those of Henry VIII. to compare the state of surgery: when at one time there were very few, as Gale tells us, worthy to be called surgeons. His account of those employed in the army is very humorous. "I remember," says he, "when I was in the wars at Muttrel (Montreuil), in the time of that most famous prince king Henry VIII. there was a great rabblement, that took on them to be surgeons: some were sow-gelders, and some horse-gelders, with tinkers and cobblers. This noble sect did such great cures, that they got themselves a perpetual name! for, like as our Thessalus's sect were called Thessalians, so was this noble rabblement, for their notorious cures, called Dog-leaches; for in two dressings they did commonly make their cures sound and whole for ever; so that they neither felt heat nor cold, nor no manner of pain after. But when the duke of Norfolk, who was then general, understood how the people did die, and that of small wounds, he sent for me, and certain other surgeons, commanding us to make search how these men come to their death; whither it were by the grievousness of their wounds, or by the lack of knowledge of the surgeons; and we, according to our own commandment, made search through all the camp, and found many of the same good fellows, which took upon them the names of surgeons; not only the names, but the wages also. We asking of them whither they were surgeons or no, they said, they were; we demanded with whom they were brought up, and they, with shameless faces, would answer, each, with one cunning man or another, which was dead. Then we demanded of them what chirurgery stuff they had to cure men withal; and they would shew us a pot, or a horn, which they had in a budget,

and seven miles round, till the candidate was previously examined and approved by the bishop of London, or the dean of St. Paul's, assisted by four gentlemen of the faculty." The sheriffs of London and Middlesex were in 1512, for the first time, empowered by parliament, to empanel jurors for the city courts, conformably to certain qualifications laid down in the statute *.

Hall, in his Chronicle for 1514, mentions a curious instance of vulgar opinion which was entertained at this time. In consequence of the improvements recently made in Moorfields, and the increasing attention to agriculture; the landholders of the adjacent hamlets of Islington, Hoxton, and Shoreditch, had been induced to enclose their grounds. The populace of the city finding, however, the theatre of their rural pastimes abridged; and more tenacious of rights which ministered to their pleasures, rather than public utility, were excited to a spirit of discontent, and riot, by a fellow, disguised in the dress of a Merry Andrew, who ran about from street to street, calling for "spades and shovels." The hint was presently taken, a great multitude assembled, armed with these weapons, and the newly erected fences and enclosures were levelled with the ground. The king's commissioners with just reason reprehended the magistrates for neglect of duty on this occasion, in not preventing the riotous proceedings of the mob.

The year 1517 is memorable for the first establishment of a new tribunal, by an act of common-council, denominated the COURT OF CONSCIENCE. This act appointed, "That the lord mayor and aldermen for the time being, shall

wherein was such trumpery as they did use to grease horses heels withal, and laid upon scabbed horses backs, with rowal, and such like. And others, that were coblers and tinkers, they used shoe-makers wax, with the rust of old pans, and made therewithal a noble salve, as they did term. But in the end, this worthy rablement was committed to the Marshalsea, and threatened by the duke's grace to be hanged for their worthy deeds, except they would declare the truth what they were, and of what occupations; and in the end they did confess, as I have declared to you before."

* 4 Hen. VIII. c. iii.

resistance, and the king felt it so powerfully, that he prudently retracted, and disclaimed all knowledge of the offensive measure. He wrote a letter to the lord mayor and citizens, declaring that he would permit no illegal exaction to be made on the subject, but trusted to their benevolence, as his predecessors had done. The meaning of the word *benevolence* was now, however, perfectly understood, and universally reprobated. The city being first rated to this impost, by way of example to the rest of the kingdom, Wolsey sent for the lord mayor and aldermen, and after expatiating on the king's grace and condescension in receding from the first demand and substituting a benevolence in place of it, he exhorted them to return into the city and make the proper assessments in their several wards, for raising the money wanted. The recorder had the courage to reply, "That by a statute of the first of Richard III. the levying of such benevolence was abolished." The cardinal nettled at the non-compliance of the citizens, alledged that Richard was an usurper and a murderer, and that laws enacted under such authority could not be obligatory on lawful princes, such as his present highness, the true, legal, and undoubted heir of the crown. This did not convince the sturdy magistrates; and the lofty cardinal, as the last effort, thought proper to take them apart, and tried to persuade them, one after another, to take a beginning as a stimulus to others. The lord mayor, who was of course first applied to, excused himself till he should have an opportunity of laying the matter before the common-council; his example was followed by all his brethren in the magistracy; and when the proposal was introduced in common-council it was treated with such disrespect, that a vote of expulsion was moved against three of the members for presuming to speak in favour of the measure, and the court broke up in a ferment. Such a stand did the spirit of liberty make against one of the most arbitrary princes, and the haughtiest minister that ever governed England; it spread over the whole nation; London was looked up to as a pattern, and the benevolence was every where refused.

The extent of commerce and manufactures, the glory and strength of London was now manifest. In 1526 the woollen branch was thought of such national importance, that an act of common-council was passed, by which the importation of woad was prohibited to foreigners; and by authority of the same court it was enacted, that no citizen whatever should presume to buy, sell, or maintain any kind of mercantile intercourse with foreigners dealing in woad. We are led to the same conclusion, from the frequent interference of the legislature at this period, in settling the limits of the city's jurisdiction, regulating the qualifications and servitude of apprentices and journeymen *, and extending the powers of incorporated

* At a court of common-council held on the first day of June, 1527, an act was passed respecting freemen and apprentices; whereby it was agreed, ordained, and enacted, as follows: "That if hereafter any freeman or freewoman of this city take an apprentice, and within the term of seven years suffer the same apprentice to go at his large liberty and pleasure; and within and after the said term agree with his said apprentice for a certain sum of money, or otherwise, for his said service, and within, or after the end of the said term, the said freeman present the said apprentice to the chamberlain of the city, and by good deliberation, and upon his oath made to the same city, the same freeman or freewoman assureth and affirmeth the said chamberlain, that the said apprentice hath fully served his said term as apprentice: or if any freeman or freewoman of this city take any apprentice, which, at the time of the said taking, hath any wife: or if any freeman or freewoman of this city give any wages to his or her apprentice, or suffer the said apprentices to take any part of their own getting or gains: or if any freeman or freewoman of this city hereafter colour any foreign goods, or from henceforth buy or sell any person or persons, being foreign or foreigners, cloths, silks, wines, oils, or any other goods or merchandize, whatsoever they be, whether he take any thing or things for his or their wages, or labour, or not: if any person or persons, being free of this city, by any colour or deceitful means, from henceforth do buy, sell, or receive of any apprentice within this city any money, goods, or merchandize, or wares, without the assent or licence of his master or mistress: and, upon examination, duly proved before the chamberlain of the said city for the time being, and the same reported, by the mouth of the said chamberlain, at a court to be holden by the mayor and alderman of the said city in their council-chamber: that as well the said master, as the said apprentice, shall for ever more be disfranchised."

To

incorporated handicraftsmen, for examining and stamping their wares. One of those acts* is interesting to the inhabitants of modern London, as it describes the extent of the suburbs over which the jurisdiction of the wardens of those companies reached. Their right of examination extended "two miles from the city, viz. within the town of Westminster, the parishes of St. Martin in the Fields, our Lady in the Strand, St. Clements Danes without Temple Bar, St. Giles in the Field, St. Andrew Holborn, the town and borough of Southwark, Shoreditch, Whitechapel parish, St. John Street, Clerkenwell, Clerkenwell parish, St. Botolph without Aldgate, St. Catharine's, near the Tower of London, and Bermondsey Street." This may be considered as an accurate view of the vicinity of London in the fifteenth year of Henry. But these suburbs had as yet no contact with the city, nor with each other, by a continuity of buildings, as appears by a map published thirty-five years afterwards, which is still extant, and has been frequently copied. St. Giles was then denominated the town of St. Giles, Marybone was beyond the limits, the greater part of St. Martin's parish, Charing Cross, was actually fields, as also was the upper part of St. Andrew's, Holborn; Westminster, Clerkenwell, Shoreditch, Whitechapel, and the Strand consisted entirely of the mansions of the nobility surrounded by large gardens. The

To this act the court added the following instructions to apprentices :

"Ye shall constantly and devoutly on your knees, every day, serve God, morning and evening, and make conscience in the due learning of the word preached, and endeavour the right practice thereof in your life and conversation. You shall do diligent and faithful service to your master for the time of your apprenticeship, and deal truly in what you shall be entrusted. You shall often read over the covenants of your indenture, and see and endeavour yourself to perform the same to the utmost of your power. You shall avoid all evil company, and all occasions which may tend to draw you to the same; and make speedy return, when you shall be sent on your master's or mistress's business. You shall be of fair, gentle, and lowly speech and behaviour towards all men; especially to all your governors. And according to your carriage expect your reward, for good or ill, from God and your friends."

* Stat. 14 and 15. Henry VIII. cap. 2.

Strand

Strand also was no continued street till about the year 1533 ; before this time it entirely cut off Westminster from London, and nothing intervened except the scattered houses, and a village which afterwards gave name to the whole.

The other histories of the times have sufficiently detailed the transactions of Henry respecting his queens, his religious sentiments, his cruelties and his arbitrary conduct, we therefore think it unnecessary to impede our narration of improvements by reiterating facts so generally known. We resume the subject of our pursuit at the time when religious anarchy pervaded the country ; but amid the ferment of persecution and cruelty the improvement and police of the metropolis made a respectable progress.

By different acts of parliament* the Strand, Holborn, from the bridge to the bars, and Southwark High Street, were ordered to be paved with stone. Water was brought from the village of Hackney to Aldgate, where a conduit had been erected for the use of the eastern part of the city. With less wisdom the legislature thought proper to interfere in regulating the markets of the metropolis, and the prices of sundry necessities of life were fixed by statute ; as if acts of parliament could dispense “ rain from heaven, and fruitless seasons.” Experience soon demonstrated the impracticability of this measure, and the statute was very properly repealed. Anderson tells us †, that at this period the butchers in London and the suburbs did not exceed eighty, each of whom killed nine oxen a week, which multiplied by forty-six, the weeks in a year, for during the six weeks of lent no flesh was eaten, gives thirty-three thousand one hundred and twenty, as the total annual consumption of beef in London. The annals of modern Smithfield present a very different account. The disparity between the present period and that of Henry VIII. respecting the price of provisions is exhibited in the following bill of fare, part of a grand entertainment at Ely House, Holborn, to the great officers of state, nobility, magistracy, &c. in 1532, for five days, by eleven gentlemen of the law on assuming the dignity of the serjeant’s coif :

* Stat. 14 & 15. Hen. VIII. c.2

† Hist. Commerce.

Twenty.

			£.	s.	d.
Twenty-four large oxen, each at	-	-	1	6	8
The carcase of a large ox	-	-	1	4	0
One hundred sheep, each at	-	-	0	2	10
Fifty-one calves, each at	-	-	0	4	8
Thirty-four hogs, each at	-	-	0	3	8
Ninety-one pigs, each at	-	-	0	0	6
Ten dozen capons of Greece, each dozen at	-	-	0	1	8
Nine dozen and a half of Kentish capons, each at	-	-	0	1	0
Nineteen dozen of common capons, each at	-	-	0	0	6
Seven dozen and nine of grouse or heath cocks,					
each at	-	-	0	0	8
Fourteen dozen and eight common cocks, each at	-	-	0	0	3
The best pullets, at	-	-	0	0	2½
Common ditto, at	-	-	0	0	2
Thirty-seven dozen of pigeons, each dozen at	-	-	0	0	10
Three hundred and forty dozen of larks, each					
dozen at	-	-	0	0	5

The years 1536 and 1538 were productive of vast effects in the religious system of the country, in which London had its share. During the first year no less than three hundred and seventy six lesser monasteries were dissolved, and their vast revenues granted to the crown by parliament; the latter amounting to 32,000*l.* per year, besides their goods and chattels, which amounted to 100,000*l.* more *.

The greater monasteries shared a similar fate; and thus in less than two years, the king seized upon the whole monastic revenue and other property; the tricks of the priests were exposed, their pretended miracles detected, and the relics and other instruments of their superstition turned into derision. Among the rest a great wooden idol, called Darvel Gatherin, was brought from Wales to London, and cut up for fuel to burn friar Forest, who had presumed to deny Henry's supremacy †. The king, under various pretences, suppressed no less than six hundred and forty-five religious foundations, of which twenty-eight had abbots who enjoyed seats in parliament.

* Hollingshed.

† Godwin's Annals.—Stow.

Ninety colleges were demolished in several counties; two thousand three hundred and seventy-four chantries and free chapels; and one hundred and ten hospitals*.

In 1540 a statute passed, by which various streets of the city were ordered to be paved with stone, new conduits to be erected, and such as were falling into decay to be repaired; the lord mayor and aldermen were also invested with authority to put the act into execution, by levying the necessary assessments and punishing defaulters. The increasing population and importance of London were evident from the frequent acts of parliament during this reign, which had for their object progressive improvement. The streets paved under this act were Aldgate High Street as far as Whitechapel church, Chancery Lane, High Holborn, Gray's Inn Lane, Shoe Lane, and Fetter Lane. And within three years afterwards the improvement was extended to Whitecross Street, Chiswell Street, Grub Street, Shoreditch, Goswell Street, St. John's Street, Cow Cross, Wych Street, Holywell Street by St. Clement's Danes; the Strand, from Temple Bar to Strand Bridge; Petty France, Westminster; Water Lane, Fleet Street; Long Lane, West Smithfield; and Butcher Row, without Temple Bar. Thoroughfares at that time much frequented. Water was conveyed into the city in additional streams from Hampstead Heath, St. Mary la Bonne, Hackney, Muswell Hill, and the springs of St. Agnes le Clair, Hoxton.

The reign of Henry was concluded by injustice and tyranny†; and Providence in mercy to the nation arrested his career by death, at the age of fifty-six, after a boisterous reign of nearly thirty-eight years.

The

* Herbert's Henry VIII.

† There was, during a long period, up to this time, a barbarous meanness, a species of insult, to the unhappy criminals, which are in our days happily changed into every species of tenderness and humanity, consistent with public justice and security. In revenge for the death of the favourites of Richard II. the great earl of Arundel, Richard Fitz-Allan, who had been joined in the commission as their judge, was some time after, hurried from his own trial, at Westminster, to execution: his arms and hands being bound; and the king glutted his eyes with the

The beginning and progress of ecclesiastical reformation constitute, however, a brilliant part of Henry's government; and although not deducible personally from him; yet the benefits derived from it were incalculable. To forward and improve the work so nobly begun, the Bible was translated into the language of the people, letters were cultivated, and the human mind, ashamed of the inglorious fetters which it had worn so long, asserted its birthright prerogative, by thinking for itself. The commerce of London was extended, her police regulated, nuisances were removed, new avenues were opened, and such as had become difficult and obstructed were cleared and amended.

An act of benevolence during this reign of violence and destruction redounds to the honour of the Gresham family, in

*" The Petition of Sir Richard Gresham, Lord Mayor of London, to the King, in Behalf of the City Hospitals *.*

" MOST redowted, puyasant, and noble prince, My most dradd, beloved, and naturall Soveraigne lorde, I your poore, humble, and most obedient Servaint, dailly considering, and ever more and more perceivynge by your vertuous begynnynge, and charitable proceedings in all your causes, your persone and majestie royall, to be the elected and chosen vessel of God, by whom not only the very and true worde of God is and shall be sett forth, and according to the trewgh and verytie of the same; but also to be he whom God hath constituted and ordeyned, both to redresse and reforme all crimes, offences and enormities beyng repugnant to his doctrine, or to the detryment of the common welth, and hurt of the poor people beyng your natural subjects; and farther to forsee and vigilantly to provide for the charitable reformation of the same.

bloody scene, while Thomas de Mowbray, earl marshal, who had married his daughter, assisted the executioner in binding his eyes! Thomas, duke of Norfolk, who was confined in the Tower, the last year of Henry VIII. was reduced to beg for sheets. He was to have lost his head, but was saved by the death of the tyrant on the very day ordered for his execution.

* Cotton. Library, Cleop. E. 4. p. 222.

Which

Which thynk hath, and yet doth encourage me, and also my bounden dewtie obligeth me, in especiall beyng most unworthy youre levetenant, and mayer of your Cytie Royall of London, to enforme and advertise your most gracious highnes of one thing in especiall, for the ayde and comfort of the poore, syke, blynde, aged, and impotent persons beyng not able to help themselffs, nor having no place certen where they may be refreshed, or lodged at, tyll they be holpen and cured of their diseases and sickness. So it is most gracious lorde, that nere and within the cytie of London, beiiij hospitalls or spytells, commonly called Seynt Georges Spytell, Seynt Barthilmewe's Spytel, and Seynt Thomas Spytell, and the new abbey of Tower Hill, founded of good devotion by auncient fathers, and endowed with great possessions and rents, only for the releefe, comfote, and helping of the poore, and impotent people, not beyng able to help themselves, and not to the mayntenance of chanons, priests, and monks to live in pleasure, nothing regarding the miserable people lying in every street, offendyng every clene persone passing by the way, with theyre fylthy and nasty savors. Wherefore may it please your merciful goodness enclyned to pytie and compassion, for the reliefe of Christs very images, created to his own similitude, to order by your high authorite, as supreme head of this church of England, or otherwise by your sage discrecion, that your mayor of your cytie of London, and his brethren the aldermen for the time being, shall and may from henceforth, have the order, disposicion, rule, and governaunce both of all the lands, tenements, and revenewes apperteynyng and belongyn to the said hospitals, governours of them, and of the ministers which be, or shall be withyn any of them : and then your grace shall facillie perceyve, that where now a small number of chanons, priests, and monkes be founde for theyr own profit only, and not for the common utilitie of the realme, a great number of poore, needy, syke, and indugent persones shall be refreshed, maynteyned, and comforted ; and also healed and cured of their infirmities frankly and freely by physicions, surgeons, and potycaries, which shall have stipende and sa-

larie only for that purpose : so that all impotent persons not able to labour shall be releved, and all sturdy beggars not willing to labour, shall be punished, for the which doying your grace shall not alonely merit highly towards God but shewe your selffe to be more charitable to the poor, than your noble progenitor kyng Edgar, foundour of so many monasteries ; or kyng Henry the Thirde, renewer of Westmynster ; or kyng Edward the Thirde, foundor of the new Abbey ; or kyng Henry the Fifte, founder of Syon and Shene ; but also shall have the name of conservator, protectour, and defendour of the poor people, with their contynuall prayer for your health, welthe, and prosperitie long to endure.

“ Your humble and most

“ obedient servant,

“ RYCHARD GRESHAM.”

Anderson * mentions a curious circumstance of the small progress which the science of gardening had made during this period. He writes, that in the year 1509, the first of Henry VIII. queen Catharine of Arragon could not procure a sallad in the kingdom, till Henry sent to the Netherlands, for a person who understood the method of raising the necessary ingredients.

But in this age of pomp and parade, the art of war underwent almost a total change. The bow and the battering-ram, gave place to the musket, the cannon, and the mortar. The invention of gun-powder was hastening to divest the soldier of personal animosity ; to abbreviate the duration, and diminish the carnage of combats. Martial spirit, however, was unabated, and the city of London alone could muster fifteen thousand men.

The reign of Edward VI. was productive of several salutary statutes, wherein London in particular enjoyed the benefit. Among others, a measure was adopted, of which future generations felt the advantage, arising from the following circumstances :

Many of the principal citizens of London having sustained considerable injury from combinations and conspiracies daily

* Hist. Commerce.

concerted

concerted by journeymen and labourers, applied to parliament for redress; and an act was passed, in which, among other things, it was ordained:

“ That if any artificers, workmen or labourers, do conspire, covenant, or promise together, that they shall not make or do their work but at a certain price or rate, or shall not enterprize or take upon them to finish that work which another hath begun, or shall do but a certain work in a day, or shall not work but at certain hours or times; that every person so conspiring, covenanting or offending, being thereof convicted by witnesses, confession or otherwise, shall forfeit for the first offence ten pounds, or have twenty days imprisonment; for the second offence, twenty pounds or pillory; and for a third offence, forty pounds, or to sit on the pillory, and to have one ear cut off, besides being rendered infamous, and incapable of giving evidence upon oath.”

In this act were included butchers, bakers, brewers, poulterers, cooks, &c. And all justices of the peace, mayors, bailiffs, &c. in their sessions, leets and courts, were to have full power and authority to enquire, hear, and determine, all and singular the offences against this statute, and to cause offenders to be punished.

But the exclusive privileges which had been granted to corporate bodies began to be felt to the inconvenience of commerce; this induced parliament to interfere, in favour of certain artificers, who were authorized to exercise their occupations in cities and boroughs, though not free of the corporation. The metropolis, ever jealous of her privileges, was alarmed at the measure, but the superior consideration of government, excited by archbishop Cranmer, rose above contracted and selfish policy, and in 1549, encouragement was given to persecuted foreign Protestants, by tendering them the free exercise of their religion, to settle in England. The numbers who embraced this invitation were very great; and the qualifications they brought, whether respecting trade and commerce, skill, industry, temperance, frugality, and the other virtues, amply repaid the country for the protection given to those respectable exiles;

exiles; who settled principally in London, Southwark, and the suburbs; as well as in Canterbury, and the southern parts of the kingdom.

About this time Somerset, the lord protector, had given great disgust to some of the higher nobility, by stretching the power and authority of his office beyond all the bounds of decency, and of the constitution: and as he had rendered himself obnoxious to the higher orders, by the assumption and exercise of an extraordinary and illegal authority, he forfeited the favour of the people, whom he had courted by acts of a different kind. The murder of his own brother, the Lord Seymour, a popular nobleman, whom he had brought to the scaffold on Tower Hill, was justly viewed in an odious light; but the immense estate, which he had suddenly accumulated, at the expence of the crown and of the church, gave offence to men of every description; and the ostentatious display of his wealth, in the magnificent palace he was rearing in the Strand, drew on him the severest censures.

This structure arose under very inauspicious circumstances. To furnish room and materials, the parish church of St. Mary, with the mansions of three bishops, were demolished. In addition to this sacrilege, an attempt was made to pull down the church of St. Margaret, Westminster, the stones of which were to be applied to the same purpose; but the parishioners rose in defence of their sacred edifice, and put the Protector's workmen to flight. He next laid violent hands on a chapel in St. Paul's Church Yard, with the cloisters and charnel house belonging to it, and on a church dedicated to St. John of Jerusalem, which he likewise applied to the building of Somerset House. What rendered these depredations offensive to the people, was the violation offered to the ashes of the dead, by defacing their monuments, removing the bones, and burying them in unconsecrated ground.

But whatever were the other opinions of Stow, Heylin, &c. in respect to this statesman, later times view his conduct dispassionately, and remark, "that though his adminiftra-

tion

tion was not without blemishes, his conduct was generally regulated by justice and humanity. He repealed the sanguinary and tyrannical laws of Henry VIII. and by gentle and prudent methods promoted the great work of the Reformation. Such was his love of equity, that he erected a court of requests in his own house, to hear and redress the grievances of the poor. His attachment to the reformed religion, but much more his envied greatness, drew upon him the resentment of the factious nobility, at the head of whom was his own brother the lord high admiral, and Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland. He caused the former to be beheaded, and was soon after brought to the block himself, by the intrigues of the latter, to whose crooked politics and ambitious views, he was the greatest obstacle *."

In 1550, Richard Hills, merchant taylor, formerly master of that company, gave the sum of five hundred pounds towards purchasing certain tenements, called the Manor of the Rose, on the east side of Suffolk-lane, Dowgate, on which to erect a free school for the education of youth. This institution by subsequent endowments, and consequent improvements, is become one of the most respectable seats of classic literature in the British metropolis. The same gentleman gave to the company of Merchant Taylors a plot of ground adjoining to Croutched Friars, Tower Hill, on which to erect alms-houses for the accommodation of single women.

Although Edward, with the comprehension of his wonderful mind for his tender years, attempted, and had he lived, would have accomplished vast projects; yet as the councils of a minority are necessarily fluctuating, the plans which had been suggested were of too great magnitude to be effectually carried into execution, though a wonderful progress was made. The council of Edward certainly contained men of high ability, at the same time that they possessed capacity, felt inclination and found leisure to attend to the commercial interests of the nation, which in the fer-

* Granger's Biographical Hist.

ment of religious contention had been at times much neglected. The greater part of the trade of England, from ancient times, had been in the hands of foreigners, particularly of the Hanseatic or Easterling merchants. They had been erected into a corporation by Henry III. were endowed with peculiar privileges, and exempted from sundry heavy duties levied upon other aliens. So little was the nature and benefit of commerce then understood by the English, that for more than three hundred years, almost the whole foreign trade of the kingdom was engrossed by those strangers, denominated in their patents, "Merchants of the Steel Yard." These gentlemen naturally employed the shipping of their own country, and the navigation of England proportionably languished. The London merchants indeed, by whom alone the real principles of trade were understood, looked on their rivals with an evil eye, and the populace occasionally insulted them. But as they could make large presents to the crown for its protection, they pursued their plans of profit, regardless of a little dirt and a few hard words levelled at them by the mob. The English company of Merchants Adventurers had been established in opposition, but from want of spirit, want of means, or want of industry, they had hitherto made no figure in the competition. The short lived but vigorous administration of the Earl of Warwick in this reign had the honour of delivering the commerce of his country from this inglorious and ruinous rivalry. It had been made to appear to the council, that forty thousand pieces of English cloth had been exported by the Easterlings, and only eleven thousand by the merchants of England; and that from the port of Southampton alone, sixty ships laden with unmanufactured wool had sailed from the Netherlands, the price of which valuable commodity those engrossers had considerably reduced. The Hanseatic privileges were consequently declared to be forfeited, and in place of one, a duty of twenty per cent. was imposed on all their imports and exports, as on those of other aliens. Strong remonstrances were made on this subject by Lubec, Hamburg, and the other Hanse-

towns;

towns; but the council had the firmness to persevere, and the good effects to the nation were presently felt. The English merchant, from his situation as a native, possessed advantages above the foreigner, in the purchase of cloth, wool, and other commodities, of which he had neglected to avail himself: but when the alien duty was levied on all foreigners without distinction, he discerned his advantage, awoke from his lethargy; a spirit of industry and exertion was kindled over the whole kingdom, and the English merchants were very soon enabled to export forty thousand pieces of cloth to Flanders. The same ministry entered also into a treaty with Gustavus Ericson, king of Sweden, by which it was stipulated, that "in return for bullion, his subjects might deal in English commodities without paying custom;" with this proviso, that he should not permit bullion to be carried elsewhere; that in return for ozimus, steel, copper, &c. he should pay custom for English commodities, upon the footing of a native; and, that in return for other merchandize, he should be allowed free interchange, paying custom as other aliens*. The consequence of this commercial arrangement was, that the English administration were enabled to reform the coinage, and to call in much of the base money which had been issued during the late extravagant reign; it also induced a great encouragement to traffic. An anecdote is here worthy of record, as it relates to the credit of the chief magistrate of London at this time. It is mentioned in several chronicles that Edward's necessities having compelled him to borrow considerable sums of Anthony Fugger and company, bankers in Antwerp; the lord mayor was joined as a collateral security for the repayment, and the king granted to Sir Andrew Judd, mayor, a recognizance to indemnify himself and the corporation, against any ill consequence.

During the reign of this amiable monarch, the city obtained a valuable addition to her property and privileges, by a confirmation of her antient title to the Borough of Southwark. By this charter, after reciting various places in the

* Heylin.

Borough and surrounding parishes, which had been given to the citizens, except the house, gardens and park of the late Duke of Suffolk, (now the Mint) and the King's Bench, the instrument proceeds thus :

“ And that the said mayor and commonalty, and citizens, and their successors, shall and may from henceforth, and for ever, have, hold, enjoy and use, as well within the said manor, as in the town, borough, parishes and precincts aforesaid, as well all and singular liberties and franchises aforesaid, as tolls, stallages*, pickages†, and other our jurisdictions, liberties, franchises and privileges whatsoever, which any archbishop of Canterbury, and which the said Charles, late Duke of Suffolk, or any master, brethren, or sisters, of the late hospital of St. Thomas's, in Southwark aforesaid ; or any abbot of the said late monastery of St. Saviour's, St. Mary Bermondsey, next Southwark aforesaid, in the county aforesaid ; or any prior and convent of the late priory of St. Mary Overy, in the said county of Surry, or any of them ; ever had, held, or enjoyed, in the said manors, lands, tenements, and other the premises or places aforesaid, or any of them, or which we have, hold, or enjoy, by any means whatsoever, as fully, freely, and in as ample manner, as we, or our most dear father Henry the VIIIth, late king of England, had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, and enjoy the same. *And that none of our sheriffs, or any other officer or minister of ours, or of our heirs and successors, shall any way intermeddle in the town, borough-town, parishes, and precincts aforesaid, or in any of them, contrary to this our grant.*”

By what authority or right this positive and unlimited charter, which was confirmed by Charles II. and received parliamentary sanction, has repeatedly been violated, cannot yet be ascertained ; and though legal discussions have been very diffusely circulated in the courts ; till it can be proved beyond all doubt, that the opinion of a judge, is paramount to an antient, authentic charter, the following

* A payment for erecting or having a stall.

† A payment for breaking the ground in order to erect such stall.
rights

rights and privileges of the City of London over and in the Borough of Southwark, must exist, in opposition to any sheriff, minister, or jurisdiction whatever:

“ 1st. To be invested with all manner of royal rights and prerogatives, in and over the town and borough of Southwark, in as full a manner, as if the same were in the king’s hands.

“ 2d. In particular, to have all manner of liberties, customs, treasures, waifs, estrays, escheats, fines and forfeitures, view of frankpledge, &c.

“ 3d. To have all goods, chattels of traitors, felons, fugitives, &c. together with all manner of suits, personal actions, &c. and the execution of all writs, commands, attachments, warrants, &c. by their sheriffs and other officers.

“ 4th. The serjeants at mace for the city to arrest for debt in the Borough, in the same manner as they do in London.

“ 5th. The city magistrates to have the assay and assize of wine, bread, beer, victuals, and every thing set to sale, together with the punishment and correction of all persons dealing therein*.

“ 6th. Also to take and arrest all thieves, felons, and other criminals, found in the borough, and to commit them to Newgate, until delivered by due course of law.

“ 7th. The mayor, recorder, and aldermen, who are justices in London, are also constituted the justices for the borough, where they are to exercise the same jurisdiction as they do in London.

“ 8th. And all and singular the inhabitants of the said borough to be under the magistracy and government of the mayor and officers of London, in the same manner as the inhabitants of the said city be.

“ 9th. And, lastly, the sheriff of Surry, and all others the king’s officers and ministers, are expressly prohibited from any ways intermeddling in the said borough.”

* In the mayoralty of Sir William Turner, anno 1668, a publican was indicted for selling beer without his lordship’s licence. *Saunders’s Reports.*

We come now to speak of some of the last acts which distinguished the reign of this virtuous king. Unlike his father, his attention and solicitude were extended to every class of his subjects, who felt the effects of his benign disposition. The rapacity of Henry on the dissolution of monasteries exceeded all bounds; the charitable disposition of Edward, will be a lasting monument to his memory.

Among the other acquisitions made by the city in Southwark was an hospital, dedicated to St. Thomas the Apostle, which had been, with various receptacles for misery, swallowed up in the late dissolution of religious foundations. It was now repaired, enlarged, and appropriated to its original benevolent purpose. The good Edward likewise, in the last year of his short but auspicious reign, founded Christ's Hospital, on the scite of the convent of Grey Friars, and richly endowed it, as a seminary for youth. The ancient palace called Bridewell was also granted, to be converted into a house of hospitality for the reception of poor way-faring persons, and of correction and employment for vagabonds, strumpets, and idlers. By a charter, dated June 6th, 1553, the lord mayor, commonalty, and city of London in succession, are incorporated as governors of the royal hospitals of St. Thomas the Apostle, of St. Bartholomew, of Christ, and of Bridewell, together with possession of all the goods and revenues pertaining to them. Such establishments are the true glory of a prince, and these establishments constitute at this day part of the glory of the British empire. Edward survived this act of royal authority only one month. He expired at Greenwich, July 6th, in the sixteenth year of his age, and the seventh of his reign, leaving his crown and kingdom to a resentful, bigotted, female tyrant.

One of the best regulations during this reign was that respecting provisions:

The butchers of London having greatly enhanced the price of meat, owing to a combination between the graziers and salesmen, the king and council, to restrain the like imposition

position for the future, fixed the prices of cattle sold in the different seasons :

<i>From Midsummer to Michaelmas.</i>			£.	s.	d.
The best fat ox, to be sold at	-	-	-	2	5 0
The best steers and runts	-	-	-	1	5 0
The best heifers and kine	-	-	-	1	2 0

<i>From Hollowmas to Christmas.</i>					
The best fat ox	-	-	-	2	6 8
The best steers and runts	-	-	-	1	6 8
The best heifers and kine	-	-	-	1	3 0

<i>From Christmas to Shrovetide.</i>					
The best fat ox	-	-	-	2	8 4
The best steers and runts	-	-	-	1	8 4

<i>From Shearing-time to Michaelmas.</i>					
The best fat weather, at	-	-	-	0	4 4
If shorn	-	-	-	0	3 0
The best fat ewe	-	-	-	0	2 6
If shorn	-	-	-	0	2 0

<i>From Michaelmas to Shrovetide.</i>					
The best fat weather	-	-	-	0	4 4
If shorn	-	-	-	0	3 0

The following prices of other provisions were also fixed by the same authority.

	£.	s.	d.
White wheat, the quarter, at	-	0	13 0
Red ditto	-	0	11 0
All other sorts of ditto	-	0	8 0
The best malt, the quarter	-	0	10 0
Second sort ditto	-	0	8 0
The best barley, the quarter	-	0	9 0
Second sort	-	0	7 0
The best rye, the quarter	-	0	7 0
Second sort	-	0	6 0
The best beans and peas, the quarter	-	0	5 0
Second sort ditto	-	0	3 0
Oats, the quarter	-	0	4 0
The best sweet butter, the pound, at	-	0	0 1

Essex

		£.	s.	d.
Essex barrelled butter, the pound	-	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
All sorts of other barrelled butter	-	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Essex cheese, the pound, at	-	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
All other sorts of ditto	-	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$

The reign of Mary I. must be obnoxious in the recital to any breast glowing with humanity. We shall therefore pass it over, and so avoid the recapitulation of the sufferings of Lady Jane Grey and her husband; the martyrdoms of the mild Cranmer, the beneficent Ridley, and others of equal qualifications and equal sufferings; and only mention what has more relation to our subject:

An act of the common council of London having passed with a view to check the immoderate luxury of the civic table, but without effect. The expence incurred by serving the office of the higher magistracies had become so enormous, from the frequency and costliness of public entertainments, that many gentlemen had retired into the country to avoid being elected. The following bye-law of the corporation was therefore, in 1554, put in force, with a few variations; which being a most curious document we present to our readers literally:

“ By the Lord Mayor, his Brethren the Aldermen of the City of London, and Common Council of the same.

“ Forasmuch as the testimony as well of divers and sundry good ordinances, presented for the reformation of the great excess in fare, and other things, used and accustomed in mayors and sheriffs houses; and at the mayors feasts of this honourable city of London, do evidently shew, and declare unto us that our ancient, wise and prudent fore-fathers have many and often times attempted the redress and amendment of the same. And the great dearth of victuals, and excessive charges within these days doth abound, as is well known to all men, compelleth us now at this present to take order therein. For as it hath, and doth plainly appear, the charges of the maioralty and shrevalties are so huge and great,

grant, that almost all good citizens flee, and refuse to serve in this honourable city, only because of the great excess and chargeable fare and diet used in the time of the said offices.

“ For remedy whereof, and for the advancement of the commonwealth, be it therefore enacted by the lord mayor, and his brethren the aldermen, with the assent and consent of the commons in this present common council assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from henceforth it shall not be lawful either for the mayor or sheriffs of this honourable city that now are, or that hereafter shall bear and have the said rooms and offices, to be served at his or their several tables, in any of their houses at dinner, or at supper, with any more courses than one.

“ And that neither they, nor any of them, shall have at one time any more sundry dishes of meat at that one course upon the Sunday, or other festival days, being a flesh day, than six, whither the same be hot or cold; and one or two of the same six dishes to come to the board as hot as a reward, if they will, after the first three or five are served to the board. And upon every holyday, being a fish day, at their said one course, seven divers dishes of meats, and not above. And at the same one course every working day, being a flesh day, five dishes, and not above; and every working day, being a fish day, at their said one course, six dishes of several meats, and not above.

“ Provided always, and it is agreed, that neither brawn, collops with eggs, sallads, pottage, butter, cheese, eggs, herrings, spratts, shrimps, or any shell-fish, nor no kind of fruit unbaked, shall be accounted for any of the said number of dishes of meats above-mentioned. Provided also, that the lord maior of this city for the time being, may always, both working day and holyday, at his pleasure, have and be served at his said one course, with one dish of meat, either of fish or flesh, more than is before limited and appointed by this present act and ordinance, any thing contained therein to the contrary notwithstanding.

“ Also, that it is agreed and enacted, that neither the serjeants, nor other officers of any lord mayor's house, nor the serjeants,

serjeants, yeomen, nor other officers of the sheriffs houses for the time being, shall have at any time moe sundry dishes of meat, either at dinner or at supper, upon the flesh days, but three, whether the same be hot or cold; and upon the fish days to have four sundry dishes of meats, and not above, whither the same be hot or cold. Provided always, and it is agreed, that neither brawn, sallads, nor any such like meats as is afore excepted, shall be accounted for any of the said dishes, for the serjeants, yeomen, or other officers, any thing in this said act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Also it is further ordained and enacted by the authority aforesaid, that none of the aldermen, or commoners of this city for the time being, shall at any time from henceforth exceed or pass the number of dishes of meats above limited and appointed for the sheriffs as aforesaid, either at their dinners or suppers, in their own proper mansion houses, brawn, sallads, and other like things as aforesaid excepted; nor in any of the halls or companies at any feast or time; nor that there be no swan, crane nor bustard, which were wont to be called headpooles, shall be spent at any feast kept in any of the halls of any 'companies, upon the pain of forfeiture of every such offence, *tolies quoties*, forty shillings.

And be it further enacted by authority aforesaid, aswell for the ease and commodity of the aged persons, as also for the avoiding of the great unquietness that often happens at the said feasts, from henceforth a certain convenient number of the clothing, aswell of the principal crafts, as of the meaner companies, which were accustomed to dine at the mayor's feast, shall be abated; and there shall remain to dine at the said feast, a certain number of every such company, as hath been accustomed to dine at the said feast, the number whereof shall be yearly appointed by the lord mayor, and his brethren the aldermen of the said city for the time being; and shall be served at the said feast but with one course, and but six dishes in the said 'course for one mess, besides the brawn, if it be on a flesh day; and if it fall on a fish day, then to have seven dishes at a mess, besides butter, eggs, and such like, as is above recited and declared. Pro-
vided

vided always, that when it shall happen any ambassador, or any of the privy council to be at the said feast, that then for their board only, to be amended and ordered by the discretion of the said mayor and sheriffs for that time being; and no banquet after dinner to be had, except *ipocras* and *wafers*, as in time past hath been used.

“ And the festival days that were wont to be kept by the mayors and sheriffs in their several houses; that is to say, the three holy-days after Whitsontide, and the dinners kept at Bartholmewtide from henceforth to be left, and laid down by the said mayor and sheriffs. And the feasts of Christmass and Easter, with the holy-days next after, to be used and kept by the said mayor and sheriffs, as heretofore hath been accustomed, and to keep the order as is aforesaid.

“ It is also ordered and enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the sheriffs of this city for the time being, from henceforth shall have but fourteen serjeants, and fourteen yeomen apiece. Provided always, that all such serjeants and yeomen as now are in office, shall still remain in the same, except by death, or by some other just occasion or offence, they shall be removed out of any of the said offices, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

“ And it is also by the said authority enacted, that the said sheriffs of this honourable city for the time being, shall from henceforth give to every of their serjeants and yeomen two gowns at the times accustomed, and no other liveries; and to every other clerks of the Compters, and such as have been accustomed to have had gowns at Christmass, to have only one livery gown, and no more.

“ And it is further ordained, that from henceforth there shall no wyth * be fet home neither at the mayors nor sheriffs

* *Wyth*, signifies a *wand*; the wyth is supposed to be an ancient custom of delivering wands at all public festivities, with cake and wine to all comers. This custom is only retained now at the parochial perambulations to ascertain the bounds, on Ascension Day. In the city of Norwich, still exists a practice on the annual election of sheriffs, of parading the streets with an uncouth wicker image, denominated *Snaph*; a tutelary lord of misrule among the rabble.

houses; neither shall they keep any lord of misrule in any of their said houses.

“ And it is further established and agreed by this common council, that every of the aldermen that shall at any time hereafter go about to excuse or discharge any of his said brethren, or other person or persons aforesaid, of his or their default or offence, committed or done contrary to the tenour and true meaning of this present act, shall forfeit and lose for every such time of his or their so doing, forty shillings; so that it be duly proved before the said mayor and court of aldermen for the time being.

“ And that all and every the penalties aforesaid to be forfeited, shall forthwith, upon the tryal thereof, be laid down, and paid in the inner chamber of Guildhall, before a court of aldermen: the one moyety of every such forfeiture to be to him or them that shall present the same, and the other moyety to be distributed towards the sustentation of Christ's Hospital.

“ *Item*, Forasmuch as the lord mayor and sheriffs of this city for the time being, shortly after their first entry into their said several offices and rooms, be yearly at great and exceeding expences and charges, for and by reason of the great and sumptuous feast, which they for the honour and renown of the same, do keep and make in the Guildhall, called the mayor and sheriffs feast, as well to and for such noblemen of the king and queen's most honourable council, ambassadors of foreign realms and potentates as are bidden and desired to vouchsafe to come unto the same; as also to and for the aldermen and worshipful commons and citizens of the same city: Be it therefore also ordained, enacted, and established by the authority aforesaid, that the said lord mayor and sheriffs for the time being, shall yearly from henceforth at the time of the making of their said feast, have of the free-gift of the said city, out of the chamber of the same city, of the common store and treasure of the said city there, towards the relief of their said charges, and expences of the said feast, the sum of one hundred pounds of current money of England. And that this present act shall be a sufficient

ficient warrant and discharge unto the chamberlain of the said city for the time being, for the yearly payment of the same sum of ONE HUNDRED POUNDS accordingly."

The reign of the vindictive, implacable Mary, which commenced unpropitiously, had an unhappy termination. She had been the wretched dupe of a foreign despot on whom she doted. His ascendancy involved the kingdom in all the distresses of an unprovoked war with France; and what began in rashness ended in disgrace. The English lost Calais, which they had held from the time of Edward III. It was surrendered to its ancient owners, after a siege of only eight days, in the depth of winter, when it was supposed to be impregnable. An event so unexpected, made a deep impression upon Mary's, otherwise callous, heart, and she was often heard to exclaim, that, "whenever she died, they would find Calais there!" To fill up the measure of her deserved wretchedness, Philip, her husband, was departing from the kingdom never to return. Such concurrent causes overwhelmed her mind, she sunk into a dejection beyond the power of medicine to relieve; this produced a lingering fever, which delivered the nation from a tyrant, on the 17th of November, 1558, after a short and execrable domination of five years, four months and eleven days; and with her ceased the capricious influence of Papal Supremacy.

Nor yet supine, nor void of rage, retir'd
The pest gigantic, whose revengeful stroke
Ting'd the red annals of Maria's reign,
When from the tend'rest breast each wayward priest
Could banish Mercy, and implant a fiend!
When cruelty the fun'ral pile uprear'd,
And bound Religion there, and fir'd the base!
When the same blaze, which on each tortur'd limb
Fed with luxuriant rage, in ev'ry face
Triumphant Faith appear'd, and smiling Hope.

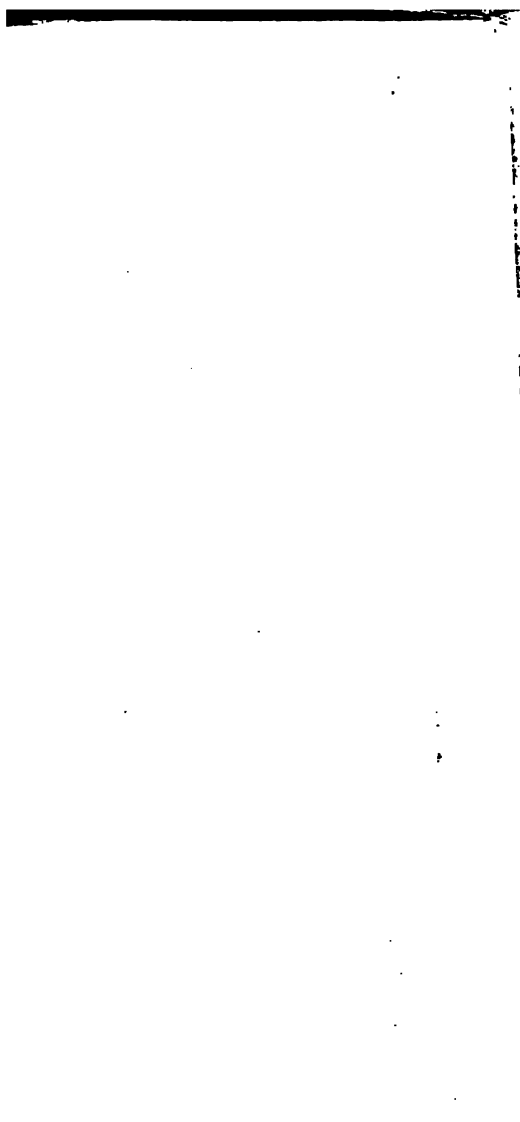
SHENSTONE,

LONDON, FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE REIGN OF
QUEEN ELIZABETH TO THE REVOLUTION.

THE glorious reign of Elizabeth commenced in equity. The vigour of mind which this great princess possessed, added to the superiority of her genius, caused her to profit even by the rigour of captivity ; and she assumed the dignity of royalty in all the maturity of a cultivated understanding and enlarged experience ; prognosticating that prosperity which the event so completely justified.

Our city annalists have transmitted to us a domestic incident of this period which must not be omitted, as it exhibits human nature in a respectable light, and opens to us one of the sources of wealth and nobility. The lord mayor of the year 1539, was Sir William Hewett, a merchant of high reputation and affluence. His family consisted of three sons and an only daughter, a child then in arms ; Sir William's house was built on London Bridge, and the lower part projected over the current of the Thames. The infant's maid, amusing herself and little charge at an open window, had the calamity to drop her into the stream, to the great horror of the family, who considered her as irrecoverably lost. A young gentleman, of the name of Osborne, apprentice to Sir William, instantly sprang into the river, and at the risk of his own life, saved that of the child. On good and honest minds, this must have made a deep and mutual impression, Osborne could not but value the person whom he had snatched from the jaws of death ; the father looked with a gracious eye on the gallant deliverer of his darling ; and the young lady, as she grew up, must have been very insensible, could she without emotion, behold a handsome, generous man, who had braved danger to preserve her life. When she became marriageable, her father's fortune attracted suitors of a very high rank, among others the Earl of Shrewsbury ; but the worthy knight rejected every proposal, declaring, " That as Osborne had saved her life, so none but Osborne should have her to wife ;" and with her





bestowed very large estates in money and land. Sir William Osborne was the ancestor, in a direct line, of the ducal family of Leeds, and afterwards filled the highest city offices with distinguished credit and ability, serving the office of sheriff in 1567, and of lord mayor in 1583. The late Duke of Leeds, one of the most amiable of mankind, has been heard to speak with exultation of his mercantile ancestry, and claim an hereditary distinction among the citizens of London *.

The space between St. James's palace and Charing Cross, about the year 1560, was a tract of fields; there were no houses, except three or four, on the east side of the present Pall Mall. In the same year, there was not a house within the space of Lambeth palace and Southwark.

The promotion of commerce, and the opulence and respectability of her metropolis, were primary considerations with Elizabeth. The English company of Merchant Adventurers, had obtained from the late king a revocation of the privileges of the Hanseatic league; but the fluctuating and ill-directed councils of Mary, had given opportunities to the rival companies to maintain a constant struggle for royal support. The wise Elizabeth, however, in 1563, gave that due preponderance in favour of her own subjects, which urged them to future endeavours in the service of their country. She granted a charter of incorporation to the English company, with most ample privileges; and such was the jealousy she entertained of foreign connexions, that it was expressly declared, "That if any freeman of this company shall marry a wife born beyond sea, in a foreign country, or shall hold lands, tenements, or hereditaments, in Holland, Zealand, Brabant, Flanders, Germany, or other places nearly adjoining, he shall be, *ipso facto*, disfranchised of and from the said fellowship of Merchant Adventurers, and be utterly excluded from the fellowship thereof."

To the name of Elizabeth for magnanimity and splendor, the History of London adds that of Gresham, for liberality and munificence. This great man was an intelligent and

* Stow.—Hunter.

successful merchant. No profession, perhaps, opens more enlarged views, or inspires more benevolent purposes, than that of merchandize; and no individual ever displayed the spirit of that profession more honourably, or more usefully than Gresham. Animated by a generous ambition to facilitate and extend the mercantile transactions of England, and of all nations, he made a noble offer to the corporation of London, to rear at his own sole expence, a bourse or exchange, for the accommodation of men of business, as a place of resort, with proper offices adjoining, for the dispatch of affairs, provided they would procure for him a central and commodious situation. This was a tender too beneficial to be rejected. Fourscore houses, composing two little alleys, called Swan and New St. Christophers, leading from Cornhill, into Threadneedle Street, were purchased, and the ground cleared away immediately. Sir Thomas, assisted by the city magistrates, laid the foundation of his intended edifice, June 7th, 1566; and with such spirit and application did the work proceed, that in the November of the year following, the building was completely covered in, and in a condition to receive the merchants. On this occasion, the queen came into the city, and honoured the founder with her company at dinner; and instead of the foreign term *a bourse*, by which such rendezvous were commonly designed, she commanded this new erection to be proclaimed by sound of trumpet, in plain English, THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.

The public spirit of Sir Thomas did not stop here; he founded a fabric sacred to humanity, letters, science, and religion. The produce of the Exchange and of its offices was bequeathed to the lord mayor and corporation, jointly with the Mercer's company, on this condition, that the corporation should out of their moiety, employ four persons properly qualified, to read a course of lectures on divinity, astronomy, geometry, and music, free of all expence to the public, at his mansion house in Broad Street, to be denominated Gresham College, with a salary of fifty pounds each; and that the Mercer's company should, in like manner, employ

ploy three qualified persons, with a similar salary, to read lectures on law, medicine, and rhetoric, at the same place. Alas! those good intentions have been long since frustrated: the places and salaries exist; but they are almost *sine cures*.

The great example of Gresham was a stimulus to other benevolent citizens; and it is at once a pleasing proof of the increasing commerce of London, and of the beneficence which commerce produces, that at the period now under review, a noble emulation prevailed in the city, not merely of accumulating wealth, but of rendering opulence, authority and influence, subservient to the general good. Contemporary with Gresham, and animated with the same spirit, was Sir Thomas Rowe, of the Merchant Taylor's company, who supported the office of chief magistrate, A. D. 1568. He has the honour of having first established a substantial permanent watch within the city. He reared a convenient fabric for the accommodation of the audiences attending public worship, at St. Paul's Cross. He purchased and enclosed a large spot of ground to the east of Moorfields, now called Old Bethlehem, as a place of burial for poor citizens, free of expence: and he made provision for preaching a sermon there on the morning of every Whitsunday, in presence of the lord mayor and court of aldermen. He gave one hundred pounds to be lent to poor tradesmen in succession, free of interest. He appropriated lands and tenements to the yearly value of forty pounds, for the maintenance and relief of ten poor men, of five occupations specified, which he deemed peculiarly laborious or exposed to danger. And during his mayoralty, a conduit was erected in Walbrook, for supplying that quarter of the city with water forced up from the Thames*.

The year 1569, exhibited a novelty of most pernicious example. The first public lottery in England was drawn at the west gate of St. Paul's Cathedral, which continued from January 11th, without interruption, night and day, until May 6th following.

* Stow's Annals.

It is impossible not to connect with this the contemporary disorderly state of the city. It was found necessary toward the close of the lottery, to issue orders to the sixteen beadles of the several hospitals, to take up, secure, and bring to punishment the swarms of vagrants, idlers, and sturdy beggars, of both sexes, with which the streets were infested. The number of delinquents was so great, and their depredations so daring, that a feeble band of beadles was found unequal to the task. This gave rise to the creation of a new office, for the conservation of public tranquillity, that of city-marshal, who was to be armed with proper authority, endowed with a competent revenue, and supported by a force sufficient to overawe and restrain the guilty. Two gentlemen, William Simpson and John Read, were appointed to execute the office. The peace of the city being thus restored, and a regular watch established, the pompous, expensive, and useless cavalcade of the marching watch was finally laid aside.

This year is also remarkable for a circumstance which involved within itself a considerable degree of importance, in the article of jurisdiction: a dispute had arisen between the bishop of Ely, and the lord mayor, the bishop denying the jurisdiction of the corporation over his tenants in Holborn: the contest was referred, by both parties, to the determination of the lord-keeper, the chancellor of the Exchequer, and two chief justices. Their determination was in favour of the city, and they declared, that the lord mayor might as freely exercise his authority in the bishop's rents, as in any other part of London*.

The

* "Ely House, with the bounds of it, claimed a privilege of express exemption from the lord mayor's jurisdiction. About this was a contest, anno 1567. Sir Roger Martin, being lord mayor, came with his company into the parts about Ely House, called Ely Rents, and attempted to weigh bread, and do his office among the bishop's tenants there: which they refused to suffer him to do, as being exempt from the rights and franchises and liberties of the mayor; and that they belonged to the jurisdiction of the church and bishopric of Ely. This caused a great dispute, and at length the bishop and the mayor chose certain honourable

The year 1572 furnishes us with the following prices of various kinds of poultry as settled by the corporation in consequence of the extortion practised by poulterers:

			£.	s.	d.
The best goose, at	-	-	-	0	1 0
The best wild mallard	-	-	-	0	0 5
The best capon, at	-	-	-	0	1 0
The second sort	-	-	-	0	0 10
The best hen	-	-	-	0	0 7
The best chickens, each	-	-	-	0	0 3
An inferior sort	-	-	-	0	0 1½
The best woodcock	-	-	-	0	0 5
The green plover	-	-	-	0	0 3
Pigeons, per dozen	-	-	-	0	1 0
Blackbirds ditto	-	-	-	0	0 10
Rabbits, each	-	-	-	0	0 3
The best eggs, five for	-	-	-	0	0 1
The best butter, per pound	-	-	-	0	0 3

The

able arbitrators to determine the business ; submitting themselves to the order and direction of the right honourable Sir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper ; Robert Earl of Leicester, Sir Robert Catlyne, knt. lord chief justice of England ; Sir Walter Mildmay, knt. chancellor of the Exchequer ; and Sir James Dyer, knt. lord chief justice of the Common Pleas. And both the said parties appeared at divers and sundry times, with their learned council, before the said lords and arbitrators, and shewed divers and sundry writings and records for the maintenance of their several titles and claims ; and also severally produced several witnesses, which had been examined in the court of Chancery, and their examinations published ; and also produced several witnesses *vivâ voce*, before the said arbitrators, for proof of their several allegations. The consideration of all which matters, after divers and sundry debates, it was agreed should be referred to the two chief justices ; and that they should make their report, and give their opinions touching the said matter, and in whom the right rested. And the chief justices having advisedly weighed and considered the several proofs, and afterwards being present in the Star Chamber, together with the said Sir Nicholas Bacon, and Sir Walter Mildmay, the 9th of June, in the twelfth of the queen, anno 1570, did make report and declaration of their opinion touching the said controversy, viz. That the right of the law, as far as

The same year is also remarkable for the progressive improvement of the St. James's end of the town: Cockspur Street filled up the space between Pall Mall and Charing Cross. Pall Mall was also laid out as a walk, or place for the exercise of the Mall, a game long since disused. The north side was planted with a row of trees; and on the other stood the wall of St. James's Park.

A public spirited and benevolent citizen, William Lamb, of the Clothworkers company, in 1577, undertook and executed at his own sole expense a work of considerable magnitude and utility. He collected into one reservoir the water of several springs, at the upper extremity of Red Lion Street, Holborn, denominated from him Lamb's Conduit, adjoining the spot on which the Foundling Hospital now stands. He had it thence conveyed in a leaden pipe two thousand yards long to Snow Hill, where he rebuilt a ruinous conduit, for the accommodation of that neighbourhood. The whole is said to have cost him the sum of fifteen hundred pounds.

The government of Elizabeth was now so completely established in the hearts and minds of her people, and her

they could yet discern, stood for the said mayor and commonalty; and that the said tenements, called Ely Rents, in Holborn, were and are within the liberties, franchises, and jurisdiction of the said city, for and concerning the matter in controversy. It was therefore by the arbitrators, except the said earl, who was then absent, and the said bishop and his council being likewise absent, ordered and decreed the said 9th of June, That the said mayor and commonalty of the city of London, and their successors, should from thenceforth peaceably and quietly have, use, enjoy and exercise, within the said tenements, all and every such liberties, customs and jurisdictions, as they may use *within any other place within the liberty and freedom of London*, without any trouble to their servants, tenants, and officers, until such time as the said bishop, or his successors, shew forth better matter for their parts and defence in the premises."—*Styke's Story*.

A question naturally arises, "Why Ely Rents, &c. should claim extra-civic privileges in preference to other places, which were the sites of episcopal palaces? Bangor Court, in Shoe Lane; London House, Aldersgate Street; Monthaw, or Hereford House, in Old Fish Street, &c. were all residences of bishops, but exercise no such rights.

administration

administration so firm and prudent, that the domestic history of the nation and of its capital, for many years together, exhibits no one very striking feature to catch the eye of posterity. Happy is it for the nation and city, and happy for the period of their existence, when the materials of the annalist become scanty. Times of public peace and prosperity leave few and faint traces behind them: but when the historian has much to record, the people must have had much to do and much to suffer. John Casimire, son to the Elector Palatine, arrived in England January 22, 1579, and landing at the Tower in the night, was received by many of the prime nobility, Sir Thomas Ramsey, the lord mayor, the aldermen, and principal merchants, who conducted him by torch light to the mansion of Sir Thomas Gresham, in Bishopsgate Street; and on the 3d of February he was magnificently entertained by the corporation.

Arts and commerce having introduced luxury among the principal citizens of London, they were become so very extravagant in dress, that, in the year 1579, it was deemed necessary to restrain their prodigality; in consequence of which a proclamation was issued by the queen against excess of apparel, gold chains, and cloaks; the latter of which were made so long, that they reached down to the heels. By the same proclamation, the length of daggers was limited to twelve inches beside the hilts; and three feet only was allowed for the length of swords.

This great princess, in the year 1580, gave orders to take account of foreigners resident in London; and they were now found to amount, within the city and liberties, to six thousand four hundred and ninety-two; of whom two thousand three hundred and two were Dutch; one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight were French; one hundred and sixteen Italians; English born of foreign parents, one thousand five hundred and forty two; of other nations not specified, four hundred and forty-seven; and of non-descripts, two hundred and seventeen. This in a period of thirteen years, since a former survey was made, exhibited

an increase of three thousand seven hundred and sixty-two, that is, the number was considerably more than doubled. It appeared likewise, that the concourse of native English from all the provinces to the metropolis; was every year likewise on the increase. An apprehension therefore of a population threatening to become excessive, and of a capital too vast for the size of the kingdom, produced a representation on the subject from the lord mayor and court of aldermen to government; and this produced a royal proclamation, prohibiting the increase of new buildings in London and the vicinity. Three causes chiefly are assigned for taking this strong measure: the difficulty of governing so great a number of people, collected within so small a circumference; the danger of communicating the plague and other contagious distempers; and the supposed impossibility of supplying such an immense multitude with provisions, fuel and other necessaries at a reasonable rate. Experience has demonstrated that these apprehensions of the city and court were groundless and chimerical. Modern London, of more than six times the size, and containing at least six times the population of London two hundred and twenty-five years ago, is infinitely better governed and supplied, than it was in Queen Elizabeth's days; and its daily increasing numbers and magnitude give no manner of alarm to magistracy or administration. So little are the wisest qualified to reason from the present to the future.

In 1581 by accident the magistracy having lost their standard weights and measures, they were not able to redress and prevent frauds in the sale of goods and merchandize; this induced Sir James Harvey the mayor, to write a letter to the lord treasurer for his advice and assistance to remedy the abuses that were crept in on that occasion. But his lordship took no notice of this application: wherefore the next lord mayor, Sir Thomas Blanke, pressed the lord treasurer more strongly, and alledged "That for lack of order to assize weights the common wealth had taken detriment, and private men presume, without order, to sell and use
unlawful

unlawful weights, both in the city and in the country." The abuse was remedied.

The apprentices, encouraged by the luxurious example of their superiors, were arrived at such an excess in apparel, that it was thought necessary, by an act of common council in 1582, to ordain, " That no apprentice whatsoever should presume, 1. To wear any apparel but what he receives from his master. 2. To wear no hat, or any thing but a woollen cap, without any silk in or about the same. 3. To wear neither ruffles, cuffs, loose collars, nor other thing than a ruff at the collar, and that only of a yard and a half long. 4. To wear no doublets but what are made of canvas, fustian, sackcloth, English leather, or woollen, without any gold, silver, or silk trimming. 5. To wear no other coloured cloth or kersey in hose or stockings than white, blue, or russet. 6. To wear no other breeches but what shall be of the same stuffs as the doublets, and neither stiched, laced, or bordered. 7. To wear no other than a plain upper coat, of cloth or leather, without pinking, stitching, edging, or silk about it. 8. To wear no other surtout than a cloth gown or cloak, lined or faced with cloth, cotton or baize, with a fixed round collar, without stitching, guarding, lace or silk. 9. To wear no pumps, slippers, or shoes, but of English leather, without being pinched, edged, or stitched; nor girdles nor garters other than of crewel, woollen, thread, or leather, without being garnished. 10. To wear no sword, dagger, or other weapon, but a knife; nor a ring, jewel of gold, or silver; nor silk in any part of his apparel, on pain of being punished at the discretion of the master for the first offence; to be publicly whipped at the hall of his company for a second offence; and to serve six months longer than specified in his indenture, for a third offence." And it was further enacted, " That no apprentice should frequent or go to any dancing, fencing, or musical schools; nor keep any chest, press, or other place for keeping of apparel, or goods, but in his master's house, under the penalties aforesaid.

In

In the same year, Peter Maurice, a German engineer, proposed a scheme to the lord mayor and aldermen, for supplying the city with water from the Thames, which was approved of, and carried into execution; Maurice had for his encouragement, obtained a lease of one arch, and a place for fixing his engine, at the north end of the bridge, for the term of five hundred years, at ten shillings *per annum* rent. He two years afterwards, obtained a lease for another arch. The citizens soon experienced the benefit of this invention*.

We have in this year 1585, the first instance on record, of the custom of the lord mayor's nominating sheriffs, by drinking to persons deemed to be qualified for the execution of that office; though afterwards this right was disputed by the livery in the time of Charles I. and claimed by the lord mayor of that period, on a prescriptive title of three hundred years standing. In the month of July, Sir Edward Osborne, the lord mayor, with several of the aldermen and the recorder, dined at Haberdashers Hall; after the second course had been served, the chief magistrate took the great cup, the gift of Sir William Garret, which being filled with hippocrass, he stood up, and silence being commanded, expressed himself aloud in these words: "Mr. Recorder of London, and you my good brethren the aldermen, bear witness that I drink unto Mr. alderman Massam, as sheriff of London and Middlesex, from Michaelmas next coming, for

* The proprietor and his posterity grew rich by his improvements, and in 1701, they sold the property to Richard Soames, a goldsmith, for 36,000 £. Maurice having first obtained another lease of the fourth arch. Soames got from the city a confirmation of Maurice's lease, at the yearly rent of twenty shillings, and a fine of 300 £. after which, Soames divided the whole property into three hundred shares, at 500 £. each share, and formed a company. The wheels placed under the arches, are moved by the common stream of the tide-water of the river Thames: and the machinery of these works altogether, is superior to that at Marly in France, and is esteemed one of the greatest curiosities in its kind, either in this or any other country; its mechanical properties are fully described in the Philosophical Works of Dn. Desaguliers, which we shall have occasion to refer to, when we give a more particular account of this bridge.

one whole year; and I do beseech God to give him as quiet and peaceable a year, with as good and gracious favour of her majesty, as I myself, and my brethren the sheriffs now being have hitherto had: and as I trust shall have." Having thus spoken, all the company present pledged the same health. The sword-bearer upon this repaired to Grocer's Hall, where Mr. Alderman Massam was at dinner, and reported the words which the lord mayor had used. The alderman made this modest reply; "First, I thank God, who, through his great goodness, hath called me from a very poor and mean degree, to this worshipful state. Secondly, I thank her majesty for her gracious goodness in allowing to us these great and ample franchises. And, thirdly, I thank my lord mayor, for having so honourable an opinion of this company of Grocers, as to make choice of me, being a poor member of the same." He and all the company then pledged his lordship's health, and returned him their thanks.

The year 1587 is remarkable for the introduction of Tobacco from the West Indies, by Mr. Ralph Lane.

The owners of the coal-pits at Newcastle, in the year 1590, entered into a combination to enhance the price of coals in London, from four shillings to nine shillings the chaldron; and, in the following year, the lord high-admiral of England claimed a right to the coal metage in the port of London; but the mayor and citizens invalidating this claim, his pretensions were set aside, and by the interest of the lord treasurer Burleigh, they obtained of the queen a confirmation of their right to this office.

Towards the close of this reign, the city was harassed with frequent and exorbitant demands of supplies for land and sea service, which were granted with an alacrity that demonstrated how much government possessed the confidence of the people. The recollection of the formidable Armada was still fresh, and the very word "Spain" was so associated in the minds of men with every idea of horror, detestation and resentment, that to mention it was at once to load the piece, and light the match. A report, whether well founded or not, was diligently propagated, of an intention

tention to attempt another descent on England in 1599. The alarm was taken, and vigorous preparation was made for defence. The proportion to be furnished by the capital, was six thousand soldiers, and sixteen ships of war: one half of the troops to take the field, and the other, consisting chiefly of gentlemen volunteers, were to attend her majesty's person as a body-guard, and to be maintained at their own and the city's expence. During this season of public danger, a rigid discipline, by the queen's special command, was observed in every quarter of the city, strong guards were placed nightly, the chains at the end of streets and lanes were drawn across, and a candle and lantern were ordered to be suspended over every door, under pain of death*.

Another act of genuine patriotism was manifested about this period. The predecessors of Elizabeth, in cases of urgent necessity, generally had recourse to the merchants of Antwerp for voluntary loans. But so low was their credit, that, beside paying an interest of from ten to twelve *per cent.* they were obliged to make the city of London join in the security. Sir Thomas Gresham, that princely merchant, and the glory of his age and country, had influence enough to procure a considerable loan for the queen, from the company of Merchant Adventurers in London; and the principal and interest being regularly paid, her credit established itself in her own capital, which was hastening to rival, and at length to eclipse Antwerp; thus she began to shake off an inglorious dependence on foreigners†. The capital found itself so secure in the glorious government of Elizabeth, that by the year 1600, considerable additions were made, "St. Martin's Lane was built on both sides, St. Giles's Church was still insulated; but Broad Street, and Holborn, were completely formed into streets, with houses, all the way to Snow Hill; Covent Garden and Lincoln's Inn Fields, were built, but in an irregular manner. Drury Lane, Clare Street, and Long Acre, arose at the same period."

* Camden's Life of Queen Elizabeth,

† Stow,

The care of the city to prevent scarcity of grain, &c. in 1594 was very praise-worthy ; the country being threatened with a famine, on account of the rains in the spring and autumn ; the merchants imported great quantities from foreign countries, and the lord mayor called upon the city companies to lay in such quantities of grain as they were obliged to, by their constitution. Wheat rose at this period to three pounds four shillings ; and rye to forty shillings *per* quarter.

The trade also of the city having been greatly injured by the increase of foreign hucksters, hawkers and pedlars, and the streets greatly obstructed by their stalls and other projections, the common council, in 1602, enacted : “ That no citizen, or other inhabitant of London, for the future, should, under any pretence whatever, presume to let before his, her, or their house, any stall or stand, on the penalty of twenty shillings. And that all hawkers offending against the tenor of this act, should not only forfeit all their goods so offered to sale, but likewise pay a fine of twenty shillings for every such offence.”

The opulence to which London had arrived at this time, is fully ascertained by the promptitude with which the city complied with the queen’s command to furnish its quota of forces to be employed against her enemies ; they fitted out and maintained two ships and a tender, at the annual expence of six thousand pounds. This was the last demand made by Elizabeth on the citizens ; and it is remarked by historians, that, during the long reign of that princess, and considering the readiness with which the citizens of London always answered her demands, she did not grant them any new charter of privileges, or even so much as confirm those which had been given by her predecessors.

The death of Elizabeth in 1603, was a misfortune severely felt by the state and by the city ; this great princess, who had been “ raised from a prison to a throne, filled it with a sufficiency that does great honour to her sex ; and with a dignity essential and peculiar to her character. Though her passions were warm, her judgment was temperate and cool ;

hence it was, that she was never led or over-ruled by her ministers or favourites, though men of great abilities and address. She practised all the arts of dissimulation, for the salutary purposes of government. She so happily tempered affability and haughtiness, benevolence and severity, that she was much more loved than feared by the people; and was, at the same time, the delight of her own subjects, and the terror of Europe. She was parsimonious and even avaricious: but these qualities were rather virtues than vices; as they were the result of a rigid œconomy that centered in the public *."

The character of Elizabeth, as related by Melville, and others, is a curious addition to the above remarks: "the Tilt-Yard, which had been the delight of Henry VIII. was equally so of his daughter Elizabeth, as singular a composition: for, with the truest patriotism, and most distinguished abilities, were interwoven the greatest variety, and most romantic disposition. Here, in her sixty-sixth year, with wrinkled face, red perriwig, little eyes, hooked nose, skinny lips, and black teeth, she could receive the gross flatteries of her favourite courtiers. Essex (by his squire) here told her of her beauty and worth. A Dutch ambassador assured her majesty, that he had undertaken the voyage to see her, who for beauty and wisdom, excelled all other beauties in the world. She laboured at an audience to make Melville acknowledge that his charming mistress was inferior in beauty to herself. The artful Scot evaded her question. She put on a new habit of every foreign nation, each day of audience, to attract his admiration. So fond was she of dress, that three thousand different habits were found in her wardrobe after her death. Mortifying reflection! in finding such alloy to the greatest characters. She was very fond of dancing: the humour she shewed in using this exercise, whenever a messenger came to her from her successor James VI. of Scotland is curious: Sir Roger Aston assures us, that whenever he was to deliver any letters to her from his master, on lifting up the hangings, he was sure to find her dancing to a little fiddle

* Granger,

affectedly,

affectedly, that he might tell James, by her youthful disposition, how unlikely he was to come to the throne he so much thirsted after *."

During

* The hospitality, and the price of provisions, of this age, are ascertained by the account of the expence of queen Elizabeth's table for one day.

"The queene's majesty's dyett, A. D. 1576, A. 18. reginæ Elizabethæ."

A declaration made as well of the ordinary dyett of the queene's majesty's booke, signed with her own hand; as also of the extraordinary whiche hath been dailye servid unto her majestie in sondrie offices, as followeth:

"Sunday, the 19th of November, anno 18^o Reginæ Elizabethæ.

Breakfast.

The queene's majesty's booke. The queene's majesty's daylye service.

	<i>d.</i>		<i>d.</i>
Cheate and mancheate	6	Cheate and mancheate, eight	8
Ale and bere	3½	Ale and bere, six gallons	10½
Wine, one pint	7	Wine, one pint	7
<i>Flesh for pottage.</i>		<i>Flesh for pottage.</i>	
Mutton for the pott, three st.	18	Mutton for the pott, four st.	20
Long bones, two	6	Long bones, four	12
Ise bones, two	2	Ise bones, three	3'
Chines of beafe, one	16	Chines of beafe, one	16
Short bones, two	4	Chines of mutton, two	20
Chines of beafe, one	16	Short bones, one	2
Connys, two	8	Chines of veale, three	6
Butter, six dishes	6	Chickens for grewell, two	7
		Veale, two stone	20
		Chines of beafe, one	16
		Butter, two pounds	8

"Sunday Dinner, the 19th of November, Anno ut supra.

The queene's majesty's booke. The queene's majesty's daylye service

<i>First Course</i>		<i>First Course.</i>	
Cheate and mancheate, six	6	Cheate and mancheate, fourteen	8
Bere and ale, four gallons	7	Bere and ale, seven gallons	10½
Wine, three pints	21	Wine, one f. two pints	36
Flesh for the pott beafe, 2 st.	40	Mutton, boyld, two	12
Mutton, three	18	Capon gr. boyld, one	2
Veale, 19 ^o , two stone	6	Chickens, boyld, four	14
Swane or gosc, one	7	Larkes, boyld, eighteen	9
Capon gr. two	4	Partridges, boyld, two	20
		U 2	Connys,

During the reign of this illustrious monarch, several plans were promoted for the comfort and convenience of the citizens; they are curious documents at the present period, and are added *literatim*, as an *Appendix*, from the originals, as published in Strype's edition of Stow's Survey of London, from the report of Fleetwood the recorder, to the queen.

The

	<i>d.</i>		<i>d.</i>
Connyes, three	- - 12	Mutton broth, one	- - 7
Fruits, one stone	- - 2	Beafe, boylde, one crope	- 6 8
Custard, one	- - 16	Beafe, boylde, dim. surloyne	20
Fritter, one s.	- - 8	Signet, one	- - 7 0
		Capon gr. two	- - 4
		Veale, six stone	- - 5 0
		Mutton for allowez, two	- 12
		Chines of beafe, rost, one	2 0
		Cocks, seven	- - 3 6
		Chickens, nine	- - 2 7½
		Plovers, nine	- - 3 9
		Veale pies, one	- - 2 6
		Custerd, one	- - 16

Second Course.

Lamb or kidde, dim.	- 10
Hérons or feasant, two	- 5 0
Cocks or godwitts, seven	- 3 6
Chickens, seven	- - 2 0½
Pejons, nine	- - 10
Larks, two dozen	- - 12
Tarte, one	- - 16
Eggs, dim. c.	- - 20
Butter, sixteen dishes	- 16
Fritter, one s.	- - 8

Second Course.

Larks, two dozen	- - 12
Snites, nine	- - 2 3
Partridges, three	- - 2 6
Feasants, two	- - 5 0
Connyes, six	- - 2 0
Pullet gr. two	- - 2 0
Chickin pies, one	- - 2 0
Tarte, one	- - 16
Fritter, one s.	- - 8
Butter, fourteen pounds	- 4 8
Eggs, three qrs.	- - 2 6
The previe	{ cheate 12 }
kitchen by	{ 18 }
the daye	{ mancheate 18 }

Sunday Supper, the 19th of November, Anno ut supra.

The queene's majesty's booke. The queene's majesty's daylye service;

First Course.

Cheate and mancheate, six	6
Bere and ale, four gallons	7
Wine, three pints	21

First Course.

Cheate and mancheate, fourteen	8
Bere and ale, seven gallons	10
Wine, one f.	3 6

Fish

The increase of the city by buildings and inmates, being considered very dangerous, the queen, at the desire of the magistrates, set forth the following proclamation :

“ *Proclamation against NEW BUILDINGS and INMATES.*

“ THE QUEEN'S MAJESTY perceiving the state of the city of London, being anciently termed her Chamber, and the suburbs and confines thereof, to increase daily by

<i>Flesh for the pot.</i>		<i>d.</i>			<i>d.</i>
Mutton, boylde, two stone		12	Sallets.		
Mutton rost, two stone	-	12	Mutton, boylde, two stone	-	12
Capon gr. two	-	4 0	Chickins, boylde, four	-	14
Hérons, two	-	5 0	Larks, boylde, eighteen	-	9
Connyes, three	-	12	Partridges, two	-	20
Chickins, baked, one stone	2 0		Slised beafe, one stone	-	20
			Mutton, rost, three stone		18
			Capon gr. two	-	4
			Chickins, nine	-	2 7
			Teales, ten	-	2 6
			Tonges, two	-	12
			Udders, two	-	8
			Cocks, seven	-	3 6
			Chickins pies, one	-	2 0
			Doucetts, one stone	-	16
<i>Second Course.</i>			<i>Second Course.</i>		
Lamb or kidde, dim.	-	10	Feasants, two	-	5 0
Cocks or godwitts, seven	3 6		Partridges, three	-	2 6
Partridges, four	-	3 4	Snites, nine	-	2 3
Pejons or plovers, nine	-	3 9	Plovers, nine	-	3 9
Larks, two dozen	-	12	Larkes, two dozen	-	12
Tarte, one score	-	16	Connyes, six	-	2 0
Butter, sixteen dishes	-	15	Bittus, two	-	5 0
Eggs, one qr.	-	10	Great birdes, nine	-	9
			Larkes baked, two dozen		2 0
			Tarte, one	-	16
			Butter, fourteen pounds	-	4 8
			Eggs, three qrs.*	-	2 6

N.B. *Cheate* and *mancheate*, are understood to be *household* and *white bread*.

* Harl. MSS. No. 609.

accesse of people to inhabit in the same, in such ample sort, as thereby many inconveniences are seen already, but many greater of necessity like to follow, being such as her majesty cannot neglect to remedie, having the principal care under Almighty God to forsee, aforehand, to have her people in such a city and confines, not only well governed by ordinary justice, to serve God, and obey her majesty, which by reason of such multitudes, lately increased, can hardly be done without devise of new jurisdictions and officers for that purpose, but to be also provided of sustentation of victuall foode, and other like necessities for man's life, upon reasonable prices, without which no city can long continue: And, finally, to the preservation of her people in health, which may seem impossible to continue, though presently by God's goodness the same is perceived to be in better estate universally, then hath been in man's memory; yet where there are such great multitudes of people brought to inhabite in small rooms, whereof a great part are seen very poor, yea, such as must live of begging or by worse means, and they heaped up together, and in a sort smothered, with many families of children and servants in one house or small tene-ment; it must needs follow, if any plague or popular sickness should, by God's permission, enter amongst those multitudes, that the same would not only spread itself and invade the whole city and confines, as great mortality should ensue to the same, where her majesty's personal presence is many times required, besides the great confluence of people from all parts of the realm, by reason of the ordinary terms for justice there holden, but would be also dispersed through all other parts of the realm, to the manifest danger of the whole body thereof, out of which neither her majesty's own person can be, but by God's special ordinance, exempted, nor any other whatsoever they be. For remedie whereof, as time may now serve, until, by some further good order to be had in parliament or otherwise, the same may be remedied: her majesty by good and deliberate advise of her counsell, and being also thereto moved by the considerate opinions of the

lord mayor, alderman, and other the grave wise men in and about the city, doth charge and straightly command all manner of persons, of what qualitic soever they be, to desist and forbear from any new buildings of any house or tenements within three miles from any of the gates of the said city of London, to serve for habitation or lodging for any person, where no former house hath been known to have been, in the memory of such as are now living, and also to forbear from letting or setting, or suffering any more families than one only to be placed or to inhabit from henceforth, in any house that heretofore hath been inhabited. And to the intent, this her majesty's royal commandment and necessary provision may take place, and be duly observed, for so universal a benefit to the whole body of the realm, for whose respects all particular persons are bound by God's law and man's, to forbear from their particular and extraordinary lucre: her majesty straightly chargeth the lord mayor of the city of London, and all other officers having authority in the same, and also all justices of peace, lords, and bailiffs of liberties, not being within the jurisdiction of the said lord mayor of London, to forsee that no person do begin to prepare any foundation for any new house, tenement, or building, to serve, to receive, or hold any inhabitants to dwell or lodge, or to use any victualling therein, where no former habitation hath been in the memory of such as now do live; but that they be prohibited and restrained so to do. And both the persons that shall so attempt to the contrary, and all manner of workmen that shall, after warning given, continue in any such work, tending to such new buildings, to be committed to close prison, and there to remain without bail, until they find good surities with bondes for reasonable sums of money, to be forfaitable and recovered at her majesty's suit, for the use of the hospitals in and about the said city, that they shall not at any time attempt the like. And further, the said officers shall seize all manner of stuff, so, after warning given, brought to the place where such new buildings shall be intended, and the same cause to be converted and employed in any public use for the city or parish where

where the same shall be attempted. And for the avoiding the multitudes of families heaped up in one dwelling house, or for the converting of any one house into multitude of such tenements for dwelling or victualling places, the said lord mayor, and all other officers, in their several liberties, within the limits of three miles, as above mentioned, shall commit any person giving cause of offence, from the day of the publication of this present proclamation, to close prison, as is afore limited. And also for the offences in this part of the increase of many indwellers, or, as they be commonly termed inmates, or undersitters, which have been suffered within these seven years, contrary to the good ancient laws or customs of the city, or of the boroughs and parishes within the aforesaid limit of three miles aforementioned, the said lord mayor and other the officers above mentioned, shall speedily cause to be redressed in their ordinary courts and law days, betwixt this and the feast of *All Saints* next coming, within which times such undersitters, or inmates, may provide themselves other places abroad in the realm, where many houses rest uninhabited to the decay of divers ancient good boroughs and towns. And because her majesty intendeth to have this ordinance duly executed, her pleasure is, that the said lord mayor of London, and other the officers having jurisdiction within the space of three miles above-mentioned, shall, after the proclamation hereof, as speedily as they may, meet in some convenient places near to the said city, and there, after conference had, accord among themselves how to proceed to the execution hereof; and, if cause shall so require, to impart to her majesty's privie counsell, any let or impediment that may arise, to the intent that remedy be given to any such impediment, according to her majesty's pleasure heretofore expressed.

“ Given at Nonesuch *, the 7th day of July, 1580, in the twenty-second year of her majesty's reign.

“ God Save the QUEEN.”

* A royal palace near Ewel, in Surrey, now dilapidated; of which a more particular account will be given in the progress of this work.

In consequence of the admonitions of lord treasurer Burleigh, to Sir John Branch, lord mayor, the following orders of the mayor, for the better government of the city, were issued in the same year :

“ For New Buildings.”

“ First, for the matter of new building and multiplication of families, precepts shall be directed to the several aldermen of the wards of this city, to call their several inquests of wardmote, upon their oaths, to enquire and present all offences against the said proclamation, both in erecting of new buildings, and in letting out or converting of former houses to greater number of habitations than heretofore have been ; and also of the pestering of the city and places adjoining, with inmates and with increase of allies, and with strangers, such as either come not hither for their conscience in true religion, or be of such places as they may safely return ; and also to enquire, so near as they can by credible information, all offences against the said proclamation, in places pretended exempt, and within three miles, without the walls of the said city :

“ To the intent that for such things as are in the jurisdiction of this city, speedy remedy be given : And for the rest, petition be made to the most honourable council, and that precepts be sent to the wardens of the several companies of the Carpenters and Bricklayers, that none of their companies do work in any such new building or severance of former houses, on pain of imprisonment, during the council’s pleasure, or disfranchisement for ever.

“ Secondly, For the matters of plague and infection, the ministers of this court shall be commanded to seek out the orders heretofore sent by the lords of the most honourable privy council, and also those that have been considered by the common council of this city, and allowed by the said lords in this behalf ; and certain grave persons, both aldermen and commoners, shall be appointed in commission again to consider thereof, and of all places convenient, and for further orders, both in clean keeping the streets, lanes, and

houses, and otherwise requisite in that behalf : and thereof inform this court, that order may be taken accordingly, with the good liking of the most honorable lords.

“ Thirdly, For the matters of conservation of the river of Thames ; and first, for weyers and stops about the bridge, it is ordered that the water bailiff shall be called, and commanded to deliver in writing, a true, distinct, and particular report of the state of the river, and how her majesty’s late commandment hath been executed, according to the laws of this realm, and right of the city : And for the matters of trinkers, (or such as used unlawful nets,) he shall likewise enquire by all lawful means, and certify this court of the quantity of those trinkers, either number their place and manner of fishing, what harm they do, and how and in what sort they may and ought to be reformed, and for all other matters pertaining to this city, to redress touching the river, and the navigableness and fishing thereof he shall truly inform, that for such things as lie within the power of this city to amend, remedy be given speedily ; and for the rest, suit be made to her majesty and her council, and reformation sought by order of her majesty’s laws.”

“ Inconveniency of too much Building.”

“ Concerning the over-building in the city, great care was taken, that the city grew not too populous, to prevent the increase of poor and needy people, and the danger that might come to the city in plagues by too great multitudes : also care was taken for the preventing of drinking-houses, now used to be much in cellars ; and when old houses were repaired that were of good amplitude, they would make two or three tenements of them, to increase the rent ; and these were turned, some into ale houses, or let to such as were of the poorer sort ; great houses also were turned sometimes in alleys, consisting of divers houses ; many sheds also were set up, to serve for small shops, which did but harbour poor people. There were also made holes under the shops, for the poorer sorts of artisans, which were injurious both to the beauty and wholesomeness of the city ; stalls also were set out from

from the houses into the streets upon London Bridge, and in other places of the city, to the streightening of the streets for passage. Moreover, to the further inconvenience of the city, many were made free by redemption, the lords making requests for certain people of the city for that purpose, and hereby it became much filled by such, their wives and children; it was looked upon also, as no ways conducing to the wealthy state of the city, for young men to set up their trades, as soon as they were out of their time, without being journeymen for some time; nor was it liked by the graver citizens, that the young citizens should keep fairs: which to do, was required double number of servants to the over-peopling of London: and whereas before, there were many large gardens belonging to the houses of the city, especially such houses as were of the greater size of building: now in these gardens were houses built, and many of them used for lewd and evil purposes, and many private contracts, were here made for the sale of children: *Moorfields*, which formerly the citizens used for their health and pleasure to walk in, and to take the air, began now to be enclosed, to the hindrance of these healthful and useful walkings.

“ For the remedying of all things, a device by the Recorder Fleetwood, was prepared, *Anno* 1583, to be offered to the lords of the council:

“ 1. Against setting up new buildings in or near London.

“ 2. Against converting great houses to alleys, or multitude of habitations: and,

“ 3. Against inmates; in these several articles following:

“ To provide for time to come, that her majesty's proclamation be better observed.

“ Some correction or blame, where negligence hath been in execution, and a more severe charge hereafter.

“ How lawfully to reache, in some exemplary manner, for the houses already bylded against the proclamation, that the same may be some way redressed, because law wanteth to pull them downe.

“ That the offenders, some at least of each sort, be holden in imprisonment during her majesty's pleasure, and under

assessment of great fines, till they come to submission to abide the order of the lords, upon which submission and bond for observing thereof, the lords may take order touching reforming the houses already bylded.

“ That it be ordered, and the parties bound, that where new houses have been builded in place of old, they be put two or more into one, till they be reduced at the most, not to exceed the number they were before.

“ That they be also bound, that in those houses they shall place none but such as shall not burthen the citie with their poverty, and that shall be of good behaviour.

“ That the mayor and justices of London, &c. be commanded not to allow any in such house, to keep alehouse or other victualling.

“ That no inn of court or chancery, receive more than the house can conveniently lodge, and for execution thereof, that all such as lodge out of the house, be judged inmates.

“ That her majesty's order may be executed as well to sheds as to dwelling houses, because men used to lie in those sheds under the stall, where if one die infected, it is more dangerous than in any house, and such people do commonly sojourn at the ale house.

“ That the mayor of London be commanded to execute the city's law against tippling in cellars, and to put the bonds in sute that he hath against such as turne houses to alleys, and to place poor in their tenements burdenous to the city.

“ That making holes under stalls for artisans be taken away, which is to be done very well, by an indirect mean, to the beauty and wholesomeness of the citie, viz. That the lord mayor be commended for the good reformation made upon London Bridge, to take away the forestalling or setting out of stalls into the street, beyond the posts of their houses; and that he be commanded to do the like throughout London.

“ That such as your Lordships doe not choose out to be imprisoned and made examples, may nevertheless not be discharged, but remain in terror of suffering the like, that they may also submit and be bound.

“ That

“ That your lordships forbear to make requests for men to be made free by redemption, by whom and their issue and servants, the city is much filled.

“ That your lordships will command the mayor, &c. to consult of reasonable means, by restrayning excess of apprentices, by abridging the easy setting up of young men, without serving as journeymen, and the dissolution of good townes, by our running to fairs, in which case they must have double number of servants, that the over-peopling of London may be remedied.

“ May it please to pardon this new devise, to extend to the new building already made.

“ That her majesty will ordain an officer in the city, by her prerogative, called a Harbinger, for the plague.

“ This harbinger to have power to take up lodging in any of these new builded houses, to receive the infected of the plague, there to be received, lodged, and cherished, till they be whole.

“ A remedy for new buildings in gardens, where now are habitations, and many times incontinent acts, and the sale of mens children by privie contracts, &c. as Bridewell knoweth.

“ The city of London hath ever had, and now most meet it should have, their free and open walks in the fields about the city, and namely in Moorfields, and some other fields, where groundes have been enclosed for gardens, and new dwellings there builded.

“ Order may be given as in like case at sute of archers for shooting, now for wholesomness of the city, by commission out of the Chancery, that all those inclosures made within memory be laid open, as they were before the enclosure.”

It is an observation worthy of notice, that in former ages, the article of dress was restricted by law, the following, therefore, claims notice in this place :

“ *Order for the Habit of Citizens, Anno 1588.*

“ The custom for the citizens and officers thereof, was to go well habited, wearing some of their wealth upon their backs: about the middle of the reign of queen Elizabeth, the city was grown very rich, and now endeavoured to get themselves

themselves eased of two statutes, made against the excess and inordinate use of apparel, the one of the twenty-fourth of Henry VIII. the other of the first and second of Philip and Mary, whereby the antient habit of the magistrates, would be restrained. The queen, perceiving the rigour of these acts, and how they contained overmuch strictness, by proclamation dated at Westminster, February sixteenth, in the nineteenth year of her reign, and by other orders more lately published, did in some part mitigate the same, yet the mitigation was not such as the same acts could with that mitigation be observed within her majesty's city and chamber of London, without violation of that decent order and conveniency that was by citizens, officers, and others, thought meet to be used and continued, who thought they were not of substance and value answerable by the rates limited by the book of subsidy; yet did hold place of such worshipful calling otherwise, as required some larger limitation than was generally prescribed by the statute and proclamation, wherefore Sir George Bond, mayor, in the month of April 1588, wrote a letter to the lords of the council. "That forasmuch as they were desirous for some convenient and comely order, such as might stand with the honour of the queen, might be in London used and continued, which could not be without some further toleration, they thought good to present to the lords of the council a book, which they caused to be drawn, containing a certain limitation and order for apparel of citizens and officers of the city, in their several degrees and callings, and of their wives, which they prayed them by their honorable good means to her majesty, by public proclamation or otherwise to be allowed unto them, and that observing the same, they might not be impeached for breach of either of the said acts, by reason of wearing any apparel or stuff by the same book desired to be allowed them." This request was the more necessary, because there were a great number of informers now a days running up and down to see who they were that brake those acts for apparel: and many of the citizens were, or were like to be informed against, for their appearance, and like to be grievously molested

lest by such informations, in divers of the queen's courts, for offences against the said statute and proclamations, therefore the mayor, and in his name the city, besought the privy council to be a means unto the queen, to extend her favor so far, as to give order, that they might not be molested for any such offences past, and that some remedy, as aforesaid, might be had in their behalf for the future."

Number of poor Householdors, London, anno 1595.

"Great care was continually taken in the city for the poor. In the mayoralty of Sir Stephen Slany, December 1, 1595, there was taken the total number of all poor householders inhabiting within the several wards of the city and liberties thereof, who wanted relief at present: which was given up by the said mayor to the queen. The whole number of these poor householders in the several wards, was 4132 (that is to say) in the ward of

Aldersgate	-	-	241	Cornhill	-	-	035
Aldgate	-	-	132	Cripplegate	-	-	466
Bassishaw	-	-	050	Dowgate	-	-	080
Bread Street	-	-	083	Farringdon infra	-	-	232
Bishopgate	-	-	447	Farringdon extra	-	-	831
Billingsgate	-	-	048	Lyme-street	-	-	018
Bridge	-	-	032	Langborn	-	-	072
Broad Street	-	-	177	Portsoken	-	-	218
Candlewick Street	-	-	114	Queenhith	-	-	064
Castlebaynard	-	-	216	Tower	-	-	237
Cheap	-	-	029	Vintree	-	-	100
Coleman Street	-	-	117	Walbrook	-	-	060
Cordweyner Street	-	-	033				

The deprivation of a monarch possessed of such vast qualifications as Elizabeth, was more a national calamity when it was understood by what means her successor wished to establish his government. Elizabeth had been frugal in money and honours; James was prodigal in both; so that in aiming to gratify his needy dependants, he rendered nobility vile in the eyes of the nation; by debauching parliaments, and breaking his word, he so far irritated the subjects he had impoverished, that though he waded through a
chequered

checquered government of intrigue and discontent, and died in peace; a foundation for disaffection and rebellion was laid, which, when the superstructure burst, in the next reign, involved the sovereign and the kingdom in the most deplorable catastrophe.

After all the exhibition of pageantry had been disposed of on James's accession, the appearance of the plague rendered it necessary to issue a proclamation to suspend Bartholomew Fair for 1604, as well as all others within fifty miles of London, to prevent the communication of infection. The evil however was occasioned in a great measure by the stagnant air, arising from the narrowness of the streets. Proclamation followed proclamation, restricting the proprietors of decayed dwelling-houses and other premises, in rebuilding, to the identical limits formerly occupied; and all edifices reared in the city or suburbs, contrary to the tenor of the proclamation, were ordered to be demolished; but in defiance of prohibitory proclamations, the metropolis increased; and although delinquents were prosecuted and fined, the building speculation continued, till it was rendered necessary, in consequence of the rapid decay of wooden structures, and the astonishing consumption of timber, to order "that in future the fronts at least of all edifices should be of brick or stone; which would promote the farther view of decoration and embellishment, as well as additional security against fire."

In 1607, the king having punctually discharged a debt of his own contracting with the city, as well as a former one incurred by the late queen, he was enabled to open a new loan to the amount of 63,000*l.*; and in consequence of the ready compliance with which the sum was given, he granted to the corporation an additional charter of confirmation, whereby their jurisdiction was extended over Duke's Place, St. Bartholomew the Greater and Less, Black and White Friars, and Cold Harbour.

The city acquired in 1609 a still more splendid addition of power and property, but which was not immediately productive of the advantage it at first promised. Though the reign

reign of James is not rendered memorable by either brilliant successes, or disastrous events ; being a period of profound and uninterrupted peace, it proved of solid and substantial good to the kingdom. The settlement of Ireland was not the least of these benefits. Almost the whole province of Ulster in that kingdom having become forfeited to the crown, the king entertained the idea of establishing within it a colony of English protestants, and for the purpose of carrying this into execution, made a tender of the escheated lands to the city of London. This offer being taken into consideration, and serious national as well as individual advantages promising to be the result, it was resolved by a court of common council to send over four persons properly qualified to survey the province and make report. These were accompanied and assisted by Sir Thomas Phillips, his majesty's surveyor, and, on their representation, the grant was accepted, and 20,000*l.* voted towards accomplishing the design. For the management of the business, a committee of six aldermen and eighteen commoners were to be annually chosen, of whom two should act as governor and deputy.

But James being haunted at the apprehension of the plague's spreading from the city to Whitehall and to Greenwich, his two favourite residences, and the image of an overgrown capital, was sufficient to produce a new string of proclamations and prosecutions, on the subject of building in London and two miles round, which were as little regarded as those that had gone before. New edifices rose, the surveyors connived at the delinquency, or were bought off, and the penalty was very rarely inflicted.

Spitalfields now began to be covered with houses. Wapping, formerly a detached village, from the increase of trade gradually incroached along the brink of the river till it reached the Tower. A large pond in the vicinity of West Smithfield was filled up, and transformed into streets, by the names of Cow, Chick, Hosier, and other lanes. The extensive fields and gardens of the grand priory of St. John of Jerusalem, and of a convent to the north of Clerken-

well Green, were built upon; and Holborn stretched away imperceptibly westward, till it came into contact with the village of St. Giles in the Fields*. Aldgate, the eastern inlet of the city, being in a ruinous state, was at the same time rebuilt.

In 1610 the number of inhabitants having increased exceedingly, it was wisely considered by the mayor and citizens in what manner they might be supplied with all necessary provisions: for this purpose they erected twelve new public granaries at Bridewell, capacious enough to hold six thousand quarters of corn, to be sold to the poor at prime cost, in case of a scarcity, or any combination by the dealers in corn or meal.

The year 1612 is sacred to one of the noblest acts of philanthropy which can dignify human nature. The monastery of the Carthusian Friars, by corruption called the Charter House, on the suppression of the order, having been granted to the Earl of Suffolk, Mr. Thomas Sutton, a wealthy bachelor, purchased it of that noble family for the sum of 13,000*l.* and laid out 7000*l.* more in repairs and improvements; intending to make it at once a seminary of literature, and a receptacle for decayed gentry. He obtained letters patent, and an act of parliament, for establishing this benevolent foundation, and endowed it with lands, even then producing 4490*l.* a year, which at a very moderate computation may be now valued at double that sum.

But this seemed to be an æra of patriotism and public spirit. In the tenth year of James, Sir Baptist Hicks, one of the justices of the peace for the county of Middlesex, afterward created Lord Viscount Campden, at his own expense built a sessions-house for the accommodation of the county magistracy, at the bottom of St. John Street; it was called Hicks's Hall, in honour of the founder.

A matchless benefactor to London, at this period, however, was Sir Hugh Middleton, the author of one of the principal sources of health, cleanliness, and comfort.

* Anderson's History of Commerce.

The projector of the canal which conveys a copious stream of fresh water from distant springs; amply to supply the British metropolis, merits the warmest gratitude of posterity. The experience of nearly two hundred years has demonstrated the extreme utility of the plan, and the profound skill and judgment with which it has been executed. A scheme so highly beneficial ought not to have proved ruinous to Sir Hugh Middleton. This undertaking, in some sense, is a proof of the great increase of the wealth of London by commerce, which enabled a citizen to undertake so expensive and arduous a work,—a work suitable to the power and grandeur of ancient Rome in its zenith of glory.

The next year Smithfield was first paved, and in 1615 the sides of the principal streets which had been before laid with pebbles, were paved with broad free stone and flags.

Though the reign of James I. was inauspicious; not only trade and commerce, but every species of domestic convenience and national advantage, was wisely and liberally promoted in London. The Levant or Turkey company were incorporated under a perpetual charter, by the designation of the Merchants of England trading to the Levant seas. Thus a most profitable commerce to England was established, by which great quantities of our woollen manufactures, and other merchandise, as watches, jewels, trinkets, cutlery, &c. have been annually exported, to a very considerable amount. The manufacture of alum was also first invented in 1608, and successfully practised in England, under the patronage of the king, by Lord Sheffield and Sir John Bourcher, who opened manufactories of this article in Yorkshire, and warehouses in London, which were greatly encouraged by government. The king also, in 1610, built the largest and finest ship of war that ever England had before, carrying sixty-four cannon, and of one thousand four hundred tons burthen, named the Prince. Thus, we may in part see, by what gradual steps the royal navy of England arrived at its present magnitude and grandeur. The London and Liverpool merchants also, went on

unrivalled in their Greenland fishery; insomuch, that the Dutch, excited by their success, sent out several ships the ensuing year, 1612, in the same pursuit; whereupon the English company's ships seized on the whale oil of the Dutch, and on their fishing-tackle, implements, &c. and obliged them to return home, with a menace, that if ever they were found on those seas hereafter, they would make prizes of both ships and cargoes; their master, the king of Great Britain, having the sole right to that fishery, in virtue of a primary discovery. The next year this menace was literally fulfilled; for the English seized on, and brought home, every Dutch ship that attempted to fish there, and they were deemed legal prizes. The Merchants Adventurers company, those of the Staple, the Russia, and the East India companies, all made such an astonishing progress in the different branches of their commerce, that in the year 1613, the money paid for exports and imports in London alone, amounted to 109,572l. 18s. 4d. which was very near thrice as much as all the other ports of England paid for customs in the same year. So great and extensive a commerce,—so numerous a fleet of merchant ships, and ships of war,—such extensive settlements in every quarter of the globe,—with such an amazing supply of different manufactures at home, thrust into every corner of the earth where any traffic could be had,—and all this established in so short a time, became a subject of great amazement to the world, and gave an early proof of British courage, industry, and perseverance.

Stow, who wrote most of his history during this reign, tells us, in his simple manner, that behind the nunnery in the Minories, "were fields in his time; one Trollop, and afterwards Goodman, were famous there; and that in the fields were a farme belonging to the said nunrie; at the which farme, he says, I myselfe in my youth, have fetcht manye a halfe peny worth of milk, and never had lesse then three ale pints for a halfe peny in the summer, nor less than one ale quart for a halfe peny in the winter, alwaies hot from the kine."

After

After a reign of twenty-two unprofitable years James died, in consequence of a Tertian ague, at Theobalds, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. His character is not to be formed either from the adulation, or the passionate invective, of the two parties that disturbed the realm during his government. That he was peaceable is undoubted; but this has been stated to be the effect of mere pusillanimity; that he was learned is equally a fact; but his dogmatical mode of displaying it, proved his impertinence, more especially when he took upon him to devise rules for the direction of a kingdom, to the honour of which he had so badly administered. His liberality was always misplaced; it bordered on prodigality, which was more blameable, being directed to unworthy objects. The due maintenance of his prerogative was certainly justifiable; but when he took upon him to dictate mandates to the other branches of the legislature, he committed an error, the magnitude of which could not be effaced, till all the horrors of anarchy had overwhelmed the British dominions and the blood of the future sovereign, and thousands of loyal and virtuous men had procured a dreadful expiation!

The unhappy reign of Charles I. during which the nation was involved in rebellion, protracted every mode of improvement in the metropolis, except in very few instances.

The learned Howell*, in his entertaining letters, relates some singular circumstances which happened on the proclamation of this monarch. "King Charles was proclaim'd at Theobalds court-gate, by Sir Edward Zouch, knight marshal, master Secretary Conway dictating unto him, That

* This gentleman first brought the art of making glass from Venice into England. He is described by Granger as "master of more languages and author of more books than any Englishman of his time;" having published nearly one hundred volumes besides his *Londinopolis*. During the civil wars, after having been a member of parliament, he was committed to the fleet for his loyalty, and compelled to write for a subsistence. At the Restoration, he was appointed historiographer, which he enjoyed till 1666, when he died and was buried in the Temple church, where a monument is erected to his memory.

whenceas

whereas it had pleas'd God to take to his mercy our most gracious sovereign King James of famous memory, we proclaim Prince Charles, his rightful and indubitable heir, to be king of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, &c. The knight marshal mistook, saying, his rightful and *indubitable* heir, but he was rectified by the secretary. This being done, I took my horse instantly, and came to London first, except one, who was come a little before me; in-somuch, that I found the gates shut. His now majesty took coach, and the Duke of Buckingham with him, and came to Saint James's; in the evening he was proclaim'd at White-Hall gate, in Cheapside, and other places, in a sad shower of rain; and the weather was suitable to the condition wherein he finds the kingdom which is cloudy; for he is left ingag'd in a war with a potent prince, the people by long desuetude unapt for arms, the fleet-royal in quarter repair, himself without a queen, his sister without a country, the crown pitifully laden with debts, and the purse of the state lightly ballasted, though it never had better opportunity to be rich, than it had this last twenty years: but, God Almighty, I hope, will make him emerge, and pull this island out of all these plunges, and preserve us from worser times."

The same author gives also a curious account of the mode of apprenticing at this time, in a letter to his father. "Our two younger brothers which you sent hither, are disposed of; my brother Doctor Howell, (afterwards bishop of Bristol) hath placed the elder of the two with Mr. Hawes, a mercer, in Cheapside, and he took much pains in it; and I had plac'd my brother Ned with Mr. Barrington, a silk-man in the same street, but afterwards for some inconveniences, I remov'd him to one Mr. Smith, at the Flower-de-luce in Lombard-street, a mercer also; their masters are both of them very well to pass, and of good repute; I think it will prove some advantage to them hereafter, to be both of one trade; because when they are out of their time, they may joyn stocks together; so that I hope, Sir, they are well plac'd as any two youths in London, but you must
not



Engraved by J. B. Knapton

Old CHEAPSIDE with the Cross.

The St. Stephens Description of London

not use to send them such large tokens in money, for that may corrupt them. When I went to bind my brother Ned apprentice in Drapers-Hall, casting my eyes upon the chimney-piece of the great room, I might spie a picture of an ancient gentleman, and underneath, Thomas Howel; I ask'd the clerk about him, and he told me that he had been a Spanish merchant in Henry the Eight's time, and coming home rich, and dying a bachelor, he gave that hall to the company of Drapers, with other things, so that he is accounted one of their cheifest benefactors. I told the clerk, that one of the sons of Thomas Howel came now thither to be bound, he answered, that if he be a right Howel, he may have, when he is free, three hundred pounds to help to set him up, and pay no interest for five years. It may be hereafter we may make use of this. He told me also, that any maid, that can prove her father to be a true Howel, may come and demand fifty pounds towards her portion, of the said Hall.—Because Mr. Hawes of Cheapside is lately dead, I have removed my brother Griffith to the Hen and Chickens, in Paternoster Row, to Mr. Taylor's, as gentile a shop as any in the city, but I gave a piece of plate of twenty nobles price to his wife."

The use of hackney coaches was but very trifling in 1626; for among the many monopolies granted by the king, was one, which gave rise to the use of sedan chairs in London*. This grant was made to Sir Sanders Duncomb, and expressed in the following terms: "That whereas the streets of our cities of London and Westminster, and their suburbs, are of late so much incumbered with the unnecessary multitude of coaches, that many of our subjects are thereby exposed to great danger; and the necessary use of carts, and carriages for provisions, thereby much hindered:—and Sir Sanders Duncomb's petition, representing that in many parts beyond

* Captain Bailey, an old sea officer, first set up four hackney coaches with the drivers in liveries, with directions to ply at the May-Pole in the Strand, where now the New Church is, and at what rate to carry passengers about the town. *Gough's British Topography.*

sea, people are much carried in chairs that are covered; whereby few coaches are used among them:—wherefore we have granted to him the sole privilege to use, let, or hire a number of the said covered chairs for fourteen years.”

This patent was followed by a proclamation against hackney coaches, strictly commanding, “ That no hackney coach should be used in the city of London, or suburbs thereof, other than by carrying of people to and from their habitations in the country; and that no person should make use of a coach in the city, except such persons as could keep four able horses fit for his majesty’s service, which were to be ready when called for, under a severe penalty.”

At this time, that part of Cheapside which extended from the Old Change to Bucklersbury, was denominated Goldsmith’s Row; and Rushworth, in the second volume of his Collection, records an order of the privy council, in 1629, to confine it and Lombard Street to the trade of goldsmiths only.

This year was productive of a privilege to a new branch of manufacture. The silk-workers of London were become so considerable, that they were incorporated by Charles, under the name of the Master, Warden, Assistants, and Commonalty, of Silk Throwers, of the city of London, and within four miles of it.

The suburbs being now encreased to an amazing extent, and vast numbers of regular tradesmen being of necessity obliged to exercise their avocations there, without the advantage of being ranked as citizens and members of the corporation of London, the king, in 1636, “ incorporated all the tradesmen and artificers inhabiting such places of the city of London as are exempted from the freedom thereof; as also, those of the out-parts of Westminster and Middlesex, within three miles of the said city of London, excluding for the future all such persons as shall not have served seven years to their respective occupations, as well as all foreigners, from exercising their respective trades, in order to save those places from being pestered with inmates, and to pre-

vent the prejudice done to such as were freemen of London." These suburbs were, therefore, added to the jurisdiction of the lord mayor *.

The principal streets of London having been greatly incumbered by stalls and stands for bakers, butchers, poulterers, chandlers, fruiterers, sempsters, grocers, and vendors of oysters, herbs, and tripe, in defiance of the laws against such nuisances, it was judged necessary by order of common-council, in 1631, to enact, " That no inhabitant whatever should presume to sell any thing in the streets or lanes of the city, upon pain of forfeiting for the first offence twenty shillings, for the second offence forty shillings, for the third offence four pounds, and for each offence afterwards, the penalty to be doubled." And in 1633, the enormities of engrossers, victuallers, bakers, &c. had arisen to such a height, that the court of Star Chamber issued a decree, " That no person whatsoever should presume to engross any sort of provision: and particularly, that no chandler should buy corn, grain, meal or flour to sell again at market or elsewhere: that no vintner should sell any thing but bread and wine, nor permit any flesh or any sort of provisions to be brought into his house, to be there eaten by any of his guests; that no baker should sell bread at any more than twelve, or at most thirteen loaves to the dozen: that the keepers of victualling-houses (in that dear time of scarcity) should take no more of each guest for a meal, than two shillings, including wine and beer, and of a servant eightpence: that no inn-holder within London and Westminster, and ten miles of the same, should take above sixpence in twenty-four hours, for hay for one horse, and no more than sixpence for a peck of oats: that to prevent the many inconveniencies that might arise from the increase of the number of livery stables in London, Westminster, and Southwark, it was decreed that the said stable keepers, after they

* In this year, queen Henrietta Maria was compelled by her priests to take a walk, by way of penance, to Tyburn. What her offence was, we are not told; but Charles was so disgusted at this insolence, that he soon after sent them, and all her majesty's French servants, out of the kingdom. *Pennant.*

had consumed their stocks of hay and oats, should not lay in any further provision, but lay the business entirely aside. And finally, that neither victuallers nor vintners should suffer cards, dice, tables, or other unlawful game in their houses, under penalty of losing their licence."

The appearance of cordiality between the king and the citizens was kept up for some time ; and though the oppressions of the ministry were insupportable, the loyalty of the city was hitherto unabated. The royal family and the court were entertained, on their return from an excursion in Scotland, by the gentlemen of the inns of court, with a masque at Ely House, which for "curiosity of fancy, excellence in the performance, and splendor, had exceeded all former exhibitions of that nature," at an expence of 20000*l.* and upwards. The procession passing by Whitehall, where it was again viewed by the royal family, so delighted the queen, that she signified her desire to have the masque repeated. This intimation induced Sir Ralph Freeman, the lord mayor, to give their majesties an invitation to dine at Merchant Taylor's Hall ; where they were entertained with the utmost magnificence ; the masques were again engaged to exhibit their pageantry in the city ; and the entertainment was repeated with equal dexterity, splendor, and applause, as at Whitehall. It is a lamentable reflexion, that from the very window of the palace in which Charles placed himself to view these masquers, he was afterwards conducted to the masqued executioners, who bereft him of life on the scaffold !

A whimsical account of the state of buildings in the city of London, at this time, is given in Sir William Davenant's works, and, as it is curious and entertaining, the whole is subjoined :

" I will first take a survey of the long continued deformity of the shape of your city, which is of your buildings.

" Sure your ancestors contrived your narrow streets in the days of wheel-barrows, before those greater engines, carts, were invented. Is your climate so hot, that as you walk, you need umbrellas of tiles to intercept the sun ? or, are your shambles so empty, that you are afraid to take in fresh air, lest it should sharpen your stomachs ? Oh, the
godly

goodly landskip of Old Fish Street! which, had it not had the ill luck to be crooked, was narrow enough to have been your founder's perspective: and where the garrets, (perhaps not for want of architecture, but through abundance of amity) are so made, that opposite neighbours may shake hands without stirring from home. Is unanimity of inhabitants in wise cities better exprest than by their coherence and uniformity of building; where streets begin, continue and end, in a like stature and shape? But yours (as if they were raised in a general insurrection, where every man hath a several design) differ in all things that can make distinction. Here stands one that aims to be a palace, and, next it, another that professes to be a hovel: here a giant, there a dwarf; here slender, there broad; and all most admirably different in faces as well as in their height and bulk. I was about to defie any Londoner, who dares pretend there is so much ingenious correspondence in this city, as that he can shew me one house like another: Yet your houses seem to be reverend and formal, being compared to the fantastical looks of the modern; which have more ovals, nieches, and angles, then are in your custards, and are inclosed with pasteboard walls, like those of malicious Turks, who, because themselves are not immortal, and cannot dwell for ever where they build, therefore wish not be at charge to provide such lastingness as may entertain their children out of the rain; so slight and prettily gaudy, that if they could move, they would pass for pageants. It is your custom, where men vary often the mode of their habits, to term the nation fantastical; but where streets continually change fashion, you should make haste to chain up the city, for it is certainly mad.

“ You would think me a malicious traveller, if I should still gaze on your mis-shapen streets, and take no more notice of the beauty of your river; therefore, I will pass the importunate noise of your watermen (who snatch at fares as if they were to catch prisoners, plying the gentry so uncivilly, as if they never had rowed any other passengers but hearwards) and now step into one of your peascod boats, whose tilts are not so sumptuous as the roofes of gundaloes, nor when you are within, are you at the ease of a *chaise-a-bras*.

The commodity and trade of your river belong to yourselves; but give a stranger leave to share in the pleasure of it, which will hardly be in the prospect or freedom of air, unless prospect, consisting of variety, be made up with here a palace, there a wood-yard; here a garden, there a brew-house; here dwells a lord, there a dyer, and between both, *duomo comune*. If freedom of air be inferred in the liberty of the subject, where every private man hath authority, for his own profit, to smook up a migistrate, then the air of your Thames is open enough, because it is equally free. I will forbear to visit your courtly neighbours at Wapping, not that it will make me giddy to shoot your bridge, but that I am loth to disturb the civil silence of Billingsgate, which is so great, as if the mariners were always landing to storm the harbour; therefore for brevity's-sake, I will put to shoar again, though I should be constrained, even without my galoshoes, to land at Puddle Dock.

“ I am now returned to visit your houses, where the roofs are so low, that I presume your ancestors were very mannerly, and stood bare to their wives; for I cannot discern how they could wear their high-crowned hats; yet, I will enter, and therein oblige you much, when you know my aversion to a certain weed that governs amongst your coarser acquaintance as much as lavender amongst your coarser linen; to which, in my apprehension, your sea-coal smook seems a very Portugal perfume. I should here hasten to a period, for fear of suffocation, if I thought you so ungracious as to use it in public assemblies: and yet, I see it grow so much in fashion, that me-thinks your children begin to play with broken pipes instead of corals, to make way for their teeth. You will find my visit short, I cannot stay to eat with you, because your bread is too heavy, and you disdain the light substance of herbs. Your drink is too thick, and yet you are seldom over-curious in washing your glasses. Nor will I lodge with you, because your beds seem no bigger than coffins; and your curtains so short, as they will hardly serve to inclose your carriers in summer, and may be held, if *affiata*, to have lined your grand-sires skirts.

“ I have now left your houses, and am passing that of your
streets,

streets, but not in a coach, for they are uneasily hung, and so narrow, that I took them for sedans upon wheels; nor is it safe for a stranger to use them till the quarrel be decided whether six of your nobles, sitting together, shall stop and give way to as many barrels of beer. Your city is the only metropolis in Europe, where there is wonderful dignity belonging to carts.

“ I would now make a safe retreat, but that methinks I am stopt by one of your heroic games, called Foot-ball; which I conceive, (under your favour) not very conveniently civil in the streets, especially in such irregular and narrow roads as Crooked Lane. Yet it argues your courage much like your military pastime of throwing at cocks; but your metal would be much magnified (since you have long allowed those two valiant exercises in the streets) to draw your archers from Finsbury, and during high market, let them shoot at butts in Cheapside. I have now no more to say, but what refers to a few private notes, which I shall give you in a whisper, when we meet in Moorfields, from whence, (because the place was meant for public pleasure, and to shew the munificence of your city,) I shall desire you to banish the laundresses and bleachers, whose acres of old linen make a shew like the fields of Carthagena, when the five months shifts of the whole fleet are washt and spread.”

About 1634, Francis Earl of Bedford began to clear away the old buildings, and formed the handsome square of Covent Garden. The arcade and the church were the work of Inigo Jones. Bedford-house, the former town-house of the noble family, stood in the Strand, but has long since given way to Little Bedford Street *.

The unhappy effects of the differences which now began to take place on account of prerogative and privilege, were severely felt by the city. The court had brought forward and insisted on the tax of Ship-money. This produced a petition from the city to the council for an abatement of

* This had originally been the garden belonging to the abbot of Westminster, which extended quite to St. Martin's Church. It was granted after the dissolution of monasteries, by Edward the Sixth, first to the protector Somerset, and lastly to Lord Russel, created earl of Bedford.

the number of ships rated upon the city, praying that his majesty would be graciously pleased to accept of ten. But this was absolutely rejected; and, as if means were sought to perplex and oppress the Londoners, the privy council resumed the affair of Goldsmiths Row, in Cheapside and Lombard Street; by an arbitrary letter in 1637, they in the king's name, commanded the lord mayor and aldermen to shut up all shops in those parts of the street not occupied by goldsmiths. This order was soon after enforced by a decree of the court of Star Chamber; wherein, after reciting his majesty's commands to the citizens for that purpose, it was declared, "that if the alderman or his deputy shall not forthwith cause to be shut up every such shop standing within his ward, in Cheapside and Lombard Street, which are not goldsmiths, upon knowledge thereof, the said alderman or his deputy shall be committed to prison by warrant from the board, &c." The magistrates paid no regard to this order, nor to a future letter, sent by the privy council to the lord mayor and aldermen, complaining of their neglect and refractoriness, and requiring them to acquaint the aldermen and their deputies of those wards in which Cheapside and Lombard Street are situated, "That if they did not forthwith put their former directions in that particular into execution, they would then give such further orders as should teach them to know that the commands of that board ought not to be slighted."

The arbitrary measures of the court and the resistance of the house of commons, now involved the country in all the horrors of civil war; and the city, sorely oppressed by the burthens imposed upon her, took part with the king's enemies; led by factious rulers, and in an ill hour furnished forces and money against her lawful sovereign; every means of accommodation having failed between the contending parties, Charles, in 1642, marched with fifteen thousand men from Northampton towards the capital. The parliament ordered the trained bands to be in readiness, and all the passages and avenues leading to the city to be fortified with posts, chains, and courts of guard. The citizens were thrown into such terror that persons of all ranks,

*AN EXPLANATION
of the
several FORTS on the
Line of
COMMUNICATION.*

1. A Bulwark & half on *q Hill*
at the North end of Gravel-
Lane
2. A Hornwork near the Wind-
mill in White-chappel Road
3. A Redoubt with 2 Flanks
near Brick Lane
4. A Redoubt with 4 Flanks,
in Hackney Road, Shore-ditch
5. A Redoubt with 4 Flanks,
in Kingsland Road, Shore-
ditch
6. A Battery & Breastwork,
at Mountmill
7. A Battery & Breastwork,
at St. John's Street end
8. A Small Redoubt, near
Hillington Pond
9. A Large Fort with four
half Bulwarks, at the new
River upper Pond
10. A Battery & Breastwork
on *q Hill* B of Blackmarj's hole
11. Two Batteries & a Breast-
work, at Southampton
House Bloomsbury.



A PLAN of the City and Environs

ranks, ages, and sexes, willingly offered themselves to work; and by digging and carrying earth and other materials, they soon completed their barricadoes and fortifications. The royalists, called Cavaliers, looking upon them with an air of contempt, made a ballad upon them and their seasonable industry, in the opprobrious stile, "Round headed *cuckolds* come dig*."

The next step taken by the citizens was an order of common council to fortify London by outworks at certain places. It was also enacted by the same common council, "That all the passages and ways leading to the city should be shut up, except those entering at Charing Cross, St. Giles's in the Fields, St. John's Street, Shoreditch, and Whitechapel; and that the exterior ends of the said streets should be fortified with breast works and turnpikes, musket proof; that the several courts of guard, and rails at the extreme parts of the liberty of the city, be fortified with turnpikes, musket proof; that all the sheds and buildings contiguous to London Wall Without, be taken down; and that the city wall, with its bulwarks, be not only repaired and mounted with artillery; but likewise divers new works be added to the same at places most exposed. For the performance whereof the said common council imposed tight whole fifteenths upon the several wards of the city. All which was confirmed by an ordinance of parliament; and in pursuance thereof the works was begun immediately, and carried on with such expedition, that in a very short time the whole compass of London, Westminster, and Southwark, was inclosed by an earthen rampart wall, strengthened with forts, bastions, redoubts, &c."

The fervour of fanaticism kept pace with treason, and to evince what effect it produced, on the 27th of April 1642, the common council ordered the city members to apply to parliament for leave to demolish the cross in Cheapside,

* The first application of this name to the anti-courtiers was by Captain Hide, who, by way of contempt, called the London apprentices Round Heads, alluding to their hair being cut close and round to the shape of their heads.

and

and the superstitious figures thereon. Thus was one of the most elegant antient structures which had ornamented the city, sacrificed to the rancour of a selfish, lawless class of beings, who, when the regular government was destroyed, soon felt the rigour with which their new rulers maintained their authority.

The deluded Charles, on the other hand, not finding it practicable to regain the friendship and confidence of those whom he had so wantonly offended, and that they were more strongly attached to the parliament his enemies, issued a proclamation next year to forbid all commerce with London. Such also, was the spirit of faction at this time, that the common council on the 18th of July 1643, the day after the date of the said proclamation, made an act for raising the sum of 50,000*l.* by way of loan, on the security of the city seal, to be employed in defence of the city, and passed an order at the same time, to move the parliament for an ordinance to compel all monied men within the bills of mortality to advance money on this occasion, according to their respective abilities; and upon a rumour that the parliament were disposed to accommodate matters with the king, the lord mayor, Sir Isaac Pennington, called a common council; they presented a petition to the house of commons, in the strongest terms, against an accommodation; his lordship, who delivered it on the 7th of August, was attended by such a vast concourse of citizens, that many of the members withdrew from the house with fear; and though such as continued and received the petition approved its contents, and rejected the proposition for peace with the king, they recommended the lord mayor to obviate such riotous proceedings for the future.

The ill-fated monarch, at length urged on the destruction which awaited him, and effectually broke with the city, by prohibiting trade, commerce, and all communication. Unwilling however that reconciliation should be hopeless, some well disposed patriots contrived to bring about a treaty of reconciliation, and prevailed on the king to write a letter for that purpose, directed to the lord mayor, aldermen,

aldermen, and all other well affected subjects of the city, with an expectation of having it read and approved of in a common hall, to be called for that purpose by the contrivance of Sir Basil Brook, and others. But the matter being disclosed to the parliament, Sir Basil, &c. were secured, the king's letter seized upon them, and a committee of eight lords and sixteen commoners attending the common hall, the Earl of Northumberland spoke so effectually against an accommodation, that an end was put to all hopes of reconciliation. The city forces consequently joined with the parliament, and behaved with great bravery against the royalists, during the next campaign; and the parliament from this time looked upon the citizens of London as the soul of their cause: for had it not been for the powerful assistance of the Londoners, both with their persons and purses, the parliament could never have been in a condition to oppose the king in the field.

The royal party, on the other hand, took the only way they thought to distress the citizens, which was to prevent its trade by water, and deprive it of coals. The western navigation was therefore almost totally interrupted by the garrisons of Greenland and Basing House; which, however, were attacked and obliged to retire, by a body of city forces, under the command of Colonel Brown. The Marquis of Newcastle, then in possession of the coal trade in the river Tyne, having prohibited the loading of coals for London; the parliament instantly issued an ordinance for supplying the metropolis with turf and peat, and granted power to the lord mayor, &c. "to nominate and appoint persons to enter into and get and dig any quantity of turf and peat in and upon any ground except orchards, gardens, and walks, to be sold at easy rates."

The anarchy in the political, had brought in also the like confusion in the ecclesiastical, state, which induced the city clergy to petition for redress of their religious grievances, in which they gave a most dismal picture of the church. "The orthodox ministry, said the petitioners, is neglected, the people seduced, congregations torn asunder, families

distracted, rights and duties of relations, national, civil, and spiritual, scandalously violated, the power of godliness decayed, fearful confusion introduced, and imminent distraction threatened." This produced an ordinance of parliament for the ordination of ministers, according to a form thereby prescribed, with punishment for those who should presume to preach or exercise the ministerial function, not being ordained according to that form.

Howell has furnished us in his letters with a humorous specimen of the manners of London in 1646. Writing to a friend at Paris, he says, "The world is here turned upside down, and it hath been long a going so; you know a good while since, we have had leather caps, and bever shooes, but now the arms are come to be leggs, for bishops laun-sleeves are worn for boot-hose tops; the waist is come to the knee, for the points that were used to be about the middle are now dangling there; boots and shooes are so long snouted, that one can hardly kneel in God's house, where all genuflection and postures of devotion and decency are quite out of use: the devil may walk freely up and down the streets of London now, for there is not a Cross to fright him any where, and it seems he was never so busie in any country upon earth, for there have been more witches arraign'd and executed here lately, than ever were in this island since the creation."

In another place, speaking of the air of London, comparatively with the cities of the East; where, when the wind is Southward, it is impregnated with Arabian spices, and as sweet as a perfum'd Spanish glove, he says, "The air of this city is not so, 'specially in the heart of the city, in and about Paul's church, where horse-dung is a yard deep; insomuch, that to cleanse it, would be as hard a task, as it was for Hercules to cleanse the Augean-stable, by drawing a great river through it; which was accounted one of his twelve labors. But it was a bitter taunt of the Italian, who passing by Paul's church, and seeing it full of horses, 'Now I perceive (said he) that in England, men and beasts serve God alike."

The

The enormities transacted during the remainder of this unhappy reign; the murder of the sovereign, the subversion of all political integrity; and the various tyrannical systems which followed, are subjects that we gladly forbear to record. And we are induced from the same principle, to draw a veil over the conduct of the misguided Londoners, for the guilty part which too many of them acted at this eventful crisis; they were, however, sufficiently punished for their temerity; and their merited sufferings wrought upon their minds so effectually, that the restoration of monarchy in the person of Charles II. was more peculiarly an act of the citizens of London, than of any other part of the kingdom.

Two or three facts will be sufficiently illustrative of what the inhabitants suffered by the republican party. The money which had been demanded as subsistence by the army not being paid, two regiments of foot, with some troops of horse, were quartered in Blackfriars and its neighbourhood; whence, *by order of the House of Commons*, they went and seized the treasure in the halls of the Weavers, Haberdashers, and Goldsmiths, from the first of which they carried off 20,000*l*.

Another regiment of horse was quartered upon the citizens to awe them from any attempt of opposing the violent proceedings of the parliament.

The Commons afterwards passed an ordinance which was to incapacitate all those "who had subscribed the petition for a treaty with the king, and bringing him to London, from being elected mayor, aldermen and common-councilmen of the city;" by which act of exclusion very few of the old body remained in the election which took place the following year.

These acts of wanton injustice were only preludes to greater, after the king's death; for having passed an act "for the exheridation of the royal line, and the abolition of monarchy in the kingdom;" by which it was decreed, that the nation should be henceforth governed by the representatives of the people, under the form of a commonwealth, the

parliament sent an order to Sir Abraham Reynardson, lord mayor, for publicly proclaiming it in the city; his lordship however, refused obedience, and was ordered to attend the house; when, being interrogated on his non-compliance with such order, he replied, "That according to the oath of allegiance which he had taken, he could not in conscience proclaim the said act for the abolishing of the kingly office, and government of kingship;" declaring, that the business was only proper for the sheriffs of the city. On this he was remanded from the bar, and the house voted as follows:

"Resolved, by the Commons of England assembled in parliament, that the lord mayor of the city of London, for his contempt, in disobeying the orders of parliament, be fined 2000*l*.

"That he be committed prisoner to the Tower of London for two months, and be degraded of mayoralty.

"That an order be forthwith drawn up, and immediately sent to the common-council of the said city, requiring and empowering them to elect a new mayor with all speed; and in order thereunto, the several companies within the said city are required to meet this day for the election thereof."

We will mention one act of justice, however, which did credit to Cromwell during his usurpation:—

To the north of Durham Place, fronting the street, stood the New Exchange, which had been built under the auspices of James I. in 1608. The king, queen, and royal family, had honoured the opening with their presence, and named it Britaine's Bursse; and having been built partly on the model of the Royal Exchange, with cellars beneath, a walk above, surmounted by rows of shops, filled chiefly with milliners and sempstresses, it was a fashionable place of resort. At this promenade of fashion, in the year 1654, Mr. Gerard, a young gentleman at that time engaged in a plot against Cromwell, was amusing himself in the walk beneath, when he was insulted by Don Panteleon de Saa, brother to the Portuguese ambassador; who, disliking the return he met with, determined on revenge: and came the

next day with a set of bravos, who, mistaking another gentleman for Mr. Gerard, instantly put him to death, as he was walking with his sister in one hand, and his mistress in the other; for this murder he was with impartial justice tried and condemned to the axe. Mr. Gerard, who about the same time was detected in the conspiracy, was likewise doomed to suffer; and by singular chance both the rivals were executed on the same scaffold, within a few hours of each other; Mr. Gerard behaving with intrepid dignity; the Portuguese with all the pusillanimity of an assassin.

Cromwell's character is summed up in a few words by Granger: "He is an amazing instance of what ambition, heated by enthusiasm, restrained by judgment, disguised by hypocrisy, and aided by natural vigour of mind, can do." The city was often complimented by his presence; but his munificence was not extraordinary in her favour.

The population of London, previously to the civil war, was estimated agreeably to the following statement:

Aldgate Ward	-	04763	Aldersgate Ward	-	03594
Bishopgate Ward		07788	Lime Street Ward		01017
Bassishaw Ward	-	01006	Queenhith Ward		03358
Bread Street Ward		02568	Vintrie Ward	-	01742
Bridge Ward Within		02392	Tower Ward	-	04248
Bridge Ward Without		18660	Dowgate Ward	-	03516
Billingsgate Ward		02597	Langbourn Ward	-	03168
Broad Street Ward		03503	Portsoken Ward	-	05703
Coleman Street Ward		02634	Cheap Ward	-	02500
Cornhill Ward	-	01439	Walbrook Ward	-	01069
Cripplegate Ward			Candlewick Ward		01696
Without	-	06445	Castle Bainard Ward		04793
Do. Within	-	04231	Bartholomew the Great		01388
Farringdon Ward			Do. the Less		00506
Without	-	20846			
Do. Within	-	08770	Sum total		128,078
Cordwainer Ward		02138			

The restoration of Charles II. to the government of which he had been so unjustly deprived, was desirable by all parties who wished well to their country, and though various of his

his reign were obnoxious and predatory, the good sense of the kingdom having been so providentially re-established, that an experiment of permanent reformation was too dangerous to be renewed, but upon more solid principles than had hitherto taken place; lesser evils were, therefore, prudentially suffered, to avoid greater.

The citizens had found to their misfortune, that a change of governors did not alleviate their burthens; that the deceptive lure which had been held out by the guilty partizans of rebellion, was only used to subdue the former, as necessary instruments to establish arbitrary power; and this they to their cost, too late discovered, by the means which those who constituted themselves a parliament upon the ruin of their country used, after the murder of the king had been perpetrated, to establish authority; such concurrent circumstances rendered the king's reception more grateful, and the year 1660, was a jubilee to those who had felt the effects of anarchy for so many years.

The first years of Charles's government were distinguished by his peculiar regard to the metropolis. In 1661, the number of hackney coaches having increased to four hundred; being found that they created an extraordinary charge upon the inhabitants of London and Westminster, by destroying the pavements; it was enacted by parliament, "That all hackney coaches, in and about the cities of London and Westminster, should annually pay, towards the charge of paving and cleansing the ways and streets in and about the said cities, the sum of five pounds each."

It was also provided by the said act to enlarge the passages about Stock's Market; from Fleet conduit to St. Paul's church; the passage and gate-way out of Cheapside into St. Paul's Church Yard; the passage at St. Dunstan's Church, in Fleet Street; from Cheapside, into Bucklersbury; the passage at Temple Bar, and several others in the out parts; and to pave Petty France to St. James's House, St. James's Street, Pall Mall, and Hedge Lane.

But the first real mark of his majesty's favour towards the city of London, was his confirmation of the Irish estates in the
the

the province of Ulster, to the citizens, of which they had been violently deprived by an arbitrary decree of the Star Chamber, during his father's reign. By this tenure, the city of London, and the several companies concerned, enjoy those estates at present.

The year 1663, is distinguished by the institution of the Royal Society; that name being then conferred by the king on a society of learned and ingenious men in London, who assembled weekly for the improvement of philosophy and the liberal arts.

This was followed by his majesty's Charter of Confirmation, wherein all the ancient privileges, liberties, rights and customs were established "in return for the late tokens of loyalty discovered in the said city, towards his person and government, by their effectual aid to restore him to the crown."

This Charter recapitulating all the privileges granted to the city by former monarchs, is of such importance, that we subjoin a copious extract, as being also the charter by which the metropolis is at present governed; and an authentic document necessary to be in the possession of every citizen:

"An Abstract of the Great Charter of Confirmation.

"William the Conqueror grants to the city of London two charters; in the first of which he confirms to them the laws they enjoyed in the reign of king Edward the Confessor; appoints every child to be his father's heir after his death; and promises to suffer no man to do them wrong. The second charter is to the same effect.

"Henry I. grants likewise a charter, wherein he decrees the citizens of London to hold Middlesex to farm for three hundred pounds, upon account, to them and their heirs, and that the said citizens shall place whom they will among themselves as sheriffs, and also as justices, to keep the *pleas of the crown, and none other to be justices over them; and

* *Pleas of the crown*, are all suits in the king's name, for offences committed against his crown and dignity.

that.

that the citizens shall not plead without the walls of the city concerning any *plea; also to be free from † scot and lot, and from ‡ dane-gelt, and from all § murder; excuses them from waging of battle; and that if any citizen be impleaded concerning the pleas of the crown, the man of London shall discharge himself by his oath, which shall be adjudged within the city.

“ And farther, that none of the king’s household, or any other, shall be lodged in the city of London by force, and that the citizens and their goods should be free, and that all their things throughout England, and the sea-ports, be free from all toll, || passage and ** lestage, and from all other customs: and that the churches, and †† barons, and citizens should

* *Plea* is what either the plaintiff or defendant allegeth for himself in court.

† *Scot and lot*, contributions or taxes laid upon subjects.

‡ *Dane-gelt*, a tax imposed on our Saxon ancestors, by king Ethelred, first one, then of two shillings, on every hide of land, for clearing the seas of Danish pirates that then infested our coasts. This was given to the Danes on terms of peace and departure, and amounted at first to ten thousand, then sixteen thousand, then twenty-four thousand, then thirty-four thousand, and at last to forty-eight thousand pounds. Henry I. and king Stephen released them finally from paying this tax.

§ *Murder*, signifies not only the crime, but (as here) the pecuniary mulct or punishment due for that crime; so that to be quit or free of murder, was, that the place where it was committed, should not be fined or amerced, though the murderer escaped.

|| *Passage*, a duty paid for passing through a town, or port, gates, or bridges.

** *Lestage*, a toll paid for liberty for persons to carry their goods up and down to marts, markets, and fairs.

†† *Barons*. Mat. Paris, sub anno 1253, says, that the citizens, or men of London, in respect of the dignity of the city and antient liberties of the citizens were wont to be called Barons. And the same author, sub anno 1258, says, *nobiles Angliæ convocaverunt totius civitatis cives quos barones vocant*. And yet Dr. Brady thinks, that only the better sort of the citizens, as the aldermen, &c. are here intended by the word *barones* in the London charters, because the words in the second charter of Henry I. are *barones et cives*. But this seems a mistake, for the fourth charter

should peaceably hold their sokes, so that the strangers that should be lodged in the *sokes, should pay custom to him only to whom the soke doth belong, or to his officer.

“ Also that no citizen should be amerced, above one hundred shillings for any pecuniary punishment; that there should be no † miskenneing in the ‡ hustings, nor in the § folkmote, nor in any other plea within the city; that the husting sit once a week, viz. on Mondays, and that the citizens enjoy their lands, premisses, bonds, and debts, according to the laws of the city; and if any shall take toll or custom of any citizen, the citizen shall within the city take of the borough or town where the toll or custom was so taken, so much as the citizen gave for toll, and as he received damage thereby. And all debtors who owe the citizens any debts, shall pay them in London, or discharge them themselves there, that they owe none; but if they will not pay the same, nor come thither to clear themselves, the citizen to whom such debts are due, may take *Namia sua*, i. e. goods within the city of that borough-town, or county, where he remains who owes the debts, and also to have their chases and hunt in || Chiltre, Middlesex, and Surrey,

charter of king John, and the second charter of Henry III. says, *sciatis nos concessisse et confirmasse baronibus nostris de civitate London, quod eligant sibi major*, &c. which compared with the other charters, shews it to be a grant to all the freemen of the city; and consequently that the word *baro* there, signifies only a freeman of the city.

* *Soke*, a liberty or privilege of jurisdiction within a certain place or precinct; also the court there held.

† *Miskenneing*, a changing or varying from a plea or court, that is, when one leaves his first declaration or plea, and gives another.

‡ *Hustings*, derived from *hus*, a house, and thing, *causa*, that is, a house where causes are to be tried; or, according to Mr. Somner, from the Saxon word *hyht*, or highest, and thing, *judicium quasi*, the highest court of the city of London.

§ *Folkmote*, according to Stow and others, signifies the general assembly of all the citizens. See *Shelman* and *Somner in Verbo*, and *Dr. Brady's Glossary*, page 48.

|| *Chiltre* part of the county of Hertford, about Saint Albans.

in as full and ample manner as any of their ancestors ever had.

Henry II. grants to them another charter, by which he confirms to them all their former privileges; and further grants, that no citizen, excepting only his *monyers and officers, should be impleaded without the walls of the city, but only in foreign tenures. He also acquits them of murder, (*i.e.* of payments made for it) † within the city, and the ‡ portsoken thereof, and that no citizen shall wage battle; and that of pleas of the crown, they may discharge themselves according to the old usage of the city. No man to take lodgings there by force, or by delivery of the marshal; also, that all the citizens shall be quit of toll and lestage throughout England, and the ports of the sea; and that none shall be adjudged for amerciaments of money, but according to the law of the city, which they had *temp.* Henry I. and that there shall be no miskenning in any plea within the city, and that the hustings shall be kept once a week, and they justly have their lands, tenures, and premisses, and all their debts, whosoever do owe them; and that right be done them according to the custom of the city, of all their lands and tenures which be in the city, and of all their debts which were lent at London, and of promises or contracts there made, pleas to be holden at London. He also grants their huntings wheresoever they had them *temp.* Henry I. and if any in all England, shall take any custom or toll, of or from the men of London, after he shall fail of right, the sheriffs of London may take goods thereof at London; and further grants them to be free from all § bridtoll, || childwite,

* *Monyers*, are the coiners and officers of the mint.

† It had been customary where a murder was committed, to fine or amerce the place, though the murderer had escaped.

‡ *Portsoken*, an extent of jurisdiction or liberty from without the gates of the city, or, as some take it, the liberties within the port or city of London.

§ *Bridtoll*, that is, bridgetoll, or money paid for passing a bridge.

|| *Childwite*, money paid, or a punishment for corrupting or getting a bondmaid with child

jerogive,

* *jeresgive*, and † *scotale*, so as the sheriff of London, or any other bailiff, may take no *scotale*, &c. all which privileges are granted to them and their heirs, to hold the same by inheritance of the said king and his heirs.

“ Richard I. *ann.* 5. grants them not to plead or be impleaded without the walls of the city, excepting foreign tenures, and his own moneyers and ministers; he gave to them likewise an acquittal of murder within the city, and in Portoken. That none wage battle: that they discharge themselves of the pleas of the crown, according to the custom of the city. That none take lodgings in the city by force, or delivery of the marshal; that they be free from toll or lestage throughout England, and the sea-ports, &c. and confirms *verbatim*, all their grants made by king Henry his predecessor.

“ Richard I. *ann.* 8. grants them a second charter, by which all the wears in the river Thames are to be removed; and the keepers of the Tower, for the future, not demand or exact any thing of any person, by reason of the said wears, for ever.

“ King John grants the city of London five several charters: in the first, *anno* 1. he confirms all the grants made to them by his ancestors, and is almost *verbatim* as those of Henry II. and Richard I.

“ In the second, *ann.* 1. he confirms to them the sheriffwick of London and Middlesex, with all the customs belonging to it, both by land and water, as well within the city as without, to hold the same at the annual rent of three hundred pounds, payable in equal proportions, at the Easter and Michaelmas Exchequer.

“ He further grants them power to choose and remove their sheriffs, and make the said sheriffs presentable and ac-

* *Jeresgive*, is a toll or fine taken by the king's officers, on a person's entering into an office; or rather a sum of money, or bribe, given to them to connive at extortion, or other offence in him that gives it.

† *Scotale*, a practice of the king's officers who kept alehouses, or brewed liquors, and forced men to come to their houses and pay contributions, called *Scotales*, for fear of their displeasure.

countable to the justices of his Exchequer; and in case the said sheriffs themselves should prove insolvent, and not be able to satisfy the amerciaments and farm, then the citizens to be accountable, saving to the said citizens their liberties aforesaid. The said sheriffs likewise enjoy the liberty of other citizens, and not to be amerced above twenty pounds, and that not to endamage any of the other citizens, though the sheriffs are not sufficient.

“ And that if the sheriffs commit any offence by which they incur the loss of their lives or members, they shall be adjudged according to the laws of the city; that is, be tried by citizens before the justices of the Exchequer. He likewise confirms to them the sheriffwick of London and Middlesex, at three hundred pounds *per annum*, and forbids all persons to do any damage to the citizens of London, in those things that belong to the sheriffwick; and withal he grants, that if any thing should be given away by him or his heirs, which of right belongs to the sheriffs of London, the same to be allowed on account of the Exchequer.

“ In the third, *ann.* 1. he again commands all wears in the Thames and Medway, to be removed, and that no wears for the future be put up any where in the Thames and Medway, upon the forfeiture of ten pounds sterling. He likewise clearly remits all that the keepers of the Tower of London were wont to exact yearly upon the account of the said wears, and forbids the said keepers to exact any money, or give any person any trouble by reason of the same.

“ In the fourth, *ann.* 16. he likewise commands the removal of all wears, &c. and grants to the barons of the city of London yearly, to choose a mayor; the said mayor to be presented to him, or in his absence to his justices; at the end of the year, to proceed to choose another, or to retain the same, presenting him again to him, or in his absence to his justices. He likewise confirms to them all their former immunities, saving only the Chamberlainship to himself.

“ In the fifth charter, said to be *ann.* 3. he grants that the guild of the weavers, shall not be in the city; and that
whereas

whereas the said guild were wont to pay him eighteen marks yearly, he agrees with the citizens to pay him twenty marks into the Exchequer for a gift, &c.

“ Henry III. *ann.* 11. grants the city of London a new charter, confirming the sheriffwick of London and Middlesex, at the yearly rent of three hundred pounds *per annum*, as aforesaid; as also, liberty to choose and remove their sheriffs; orders the said sheriffs to be presented at the Exchequer; and the citizens (if the sheriffs do not answer the amerciements, and the farm,) to do it themselves, saving their liberties as aforesaid, and the said sheriff their other liberties.

“ He orders the amerciements of the sheriffs not to exceed twenty pounds, and that if they do any offence whereby they ought to incur the loss of their lives or members, that, according to the law of the city, they be judged before the justices of the Exchequer. He repeats again their former grant of holding the sheriffwick of London and Middlesex, quietly, honourably, and wholly by the farm of three hundred *per annum*; and provides, that if himself or any of his justices, shall grant to any person any thing belonging to the sheriffwick of London, &c. that it shall be accounted for to the citizens of London, in the acquittal of the said farm in the Exchequer.

“ In the second charter, *ann.* 11. he grants to the barons of London, the liberty to choose a mayor; orders that he be presented, after his election, to him, or in his absence to the justices. That at the end of the year, they proceed to a new choice: that the said barons enjoy all their liberties, saving only the chamberlainship to himself.

“ In his third charter, *ann.* 11. he commands the removal of all the wears in the river of Thames and Medway. He forbids the keepers of the Tower of London to demand any thing as they were wont formerly, upon account of their wears, and declares the said wears to be injurious, not only to the city of London, but to the whole realm*.

* It is said by Calthorp, in his tract of the city's liberties, p. 15. that the king's hand, as well as seal, was set to this charter; the like whereof (says he) I never did hear or read of before.

“ In

“ In his fourth charter, *ann.* 11. he grants that no citizen plead without the walls of the city, excepting his moneyers and ministers, and in foreign tenures. He likewise grants to them an acquittal of all murther within the walls of the city. That no citizen be obliged to wage battle, and that they have liberty to discharge themselves of the pleas of the crown according to the custom of the city. That none be lodged upon them by force. That they be free from all toll, lestage, &c. throughout England. That they be amerced according to the law of the city. That there be no miskenning in any pleading in the city. That the hustings sit once a week. That they enjoy their debts, &c. according to the custom of the city. That pleas for debts lent in London, be holden in the city. That they enjoy the former liberty of hunting. That they be quit of all bridtoll, childwite, jeresgive, and of all scotale, as aforesaid; and that they and their heirs hold their liberties of him and his heirs hereditarily.

“ In his fifth charter, he grants the warren of Stanes, &c. to the inhabitants of the county of Middlesex, and gives leave that the same should be diswarrened and disforested, &c.

“ In this sixth charter, *ann.* 11. the covenant between the king's brother Richard earl of Cornwal, and the mayor and commonalty of London, concerning Queen-hith, is repeated, and Queen-hith granted to the city at the yearly rent of fifty pounds, to be paid at two equal proportions every year in Clerkenwell: which grant not long after was solemnly confirmed by the king for him and his heirs, &c.

“ In the seventh charter, *ann.* 37. he grants to the citizens of London, &c. all their liberties and free customs, which they had in the reign of Henry his grandfather. He appoints that the mayor be yearly presented to him, or in his absence, to the barons of the Exchequer at Westminster; and allows to the sheriffs of London yearly, seven pounds, upon account for the liberty of St. Paul's, and that the citizens, throughout all his dominions, both here and beyond sea, be quit of all tolls and custom, &c.

“ In his eighth chapter, *ann.* 50. he grants to the citizens of London to traffic with their merchandizes where they pleased, as well by sea as land, and grants them a general immunity from all toll, &c.

“ In his ninth charter, *ann.* 52. (the citizens having forfeited their former charters) he is reconciled to them, and grants as follows; that none of them be compelled to plead without the walls of the city, except foreign tenures, and his mo-neyers and officers, and such other matters which are contrary to the peace of the realm, &c. he grants them likewise acquittal of murder, in the city and portsoken, and that none of them may wage battle, and that they may discharge themselves of the pleas of the crown according to their an-tient custom; except only that they shall not swear upon the graves of the dead, but that others be chosen to do that which the deceased should have done in his life: and he also grants that none shall lodge within the walls of the city, and in portsoken, by force, or by delivery of the marshal.

“ He further grants them liberty to dwell with their mer-chandises, and to trade free in any part of his dominions, and as well on this, as beyond the seas, to be free in all his sea-ports from all toll, lestage, &c. excepting only his custom and prizes of wine, which was, for one tun before, and an-other behind the mast, twenty shillings; and withal grants, that if any person take any toll of them contrary to his grant, that the sheriff of London shall take their goods by with-*nam* * at London.

“ Also that the hustings be holden once a week, and that the citizens have right done them within the city for their lands and tenures, according to the antient custom of the city; that they have liberty to appoint their attorney, as well in pleading as defending there, as elsewhere in our court. That there be no miskenning in their pleas, *i. e.* where they have

* *Withernam*, by some is defined to be *vetitum narium*, that is, an illegal taking of goods, &c. But others more rightly deriving it from the Saxon *wiðer*, wither, *contra*, and *Namia*, from *Numium recipere*, have shewn that it signifies a recaption, or taking again, that is, a taking of something in lieu of another thing unjustly taken or detained.

not declared altogether well. And that of all debts, promises, &c. made in London, pleas be there holden according to their antient custom, and that all be quit of childwite and jeresgive, and from scotale. That the citizen have and hold lands, debts, and tenures as formerly. That there be no forestalling, &c. upon the forfeiture of the goods bought after that manner, and imprisonment.

“ Also that no goods be put to sale before the custom be levied, without great punishment, and the forfeiture of the said goods. That no stranger buy any goods before they be weighed at the king’s beam, upon forfeiture of the said goods. Further he grants, that the citizens, for the better security of their debts, might have liberty to enrol them in the Exchequer; but no debt to be enrolled unless testified by six or four witnesses, and that they pay for every pound so enrolled, one penny for his use; and likewise grants that they enjoy all their former customs, provided they are not contrary to right, law and justice, making a reserve to himself touching Jews and merchant-strangers.

“ Edward I. by his charter, *ann.* 26. appoints that the mayor and sheriffs of London, be presented in his absence to the barons of the Exchequer at Westminster, till his next coming to Westminster or London, and then to be presented to himself, &c. or in case that neither he, nor the said barons shall be at London or Westminster, then they shall be presented to the constable of the Tower. He also grants to the citizens aforesaid, that they be for ever free from * Pannage, † pontage, and ‡ murage. That the sheriffs of London be amerced as the sheriffs of other counties; and that the citizens enjoy all their former liberties, freedoms, quittals, and free customs.

* *Pannage* from *Pannaguim*, described by Spelman to be a benefit which was received by the keepers of forests, for allowing hogs and cattle to feed; or according to Domesday Book, “*wood for hogs.*”

† *Pontage*, a duty paid for passing over bridges with horses, carts, carriages, &c. or under them with boats, ships, &c. toward repairing such bridges.

‡ *Murage*, a contribution toward repairing the walls and edifices of a city.

“ Edward

Edward II. *ann.* 15. in return for several kindnesses mentioned at large in his charter, (granted to the citizens of London. viz. That whereas they assisted him with armed footmen at the castle of Leeds, in Kent, &c.) grants that the same aids, &c. shall not be prejudicial to the mayor, &c. nor be drawn into example.

Edward III. *ann.* 1. grants the citizens of London a very large and beneficial charter; wherein, according to the great charter, or the liberties of England, *i. e. Magna Charta*, all their antient liberties and customs are restored, and all usurpations of their former liberties revoked and annulled. He grants that the mayor and successors be one of the justices of the gaol delivery of Newgate, to be named in every commission; and that they have * *infangtheft*, and † *oufangtheft*, and chattels of felons, &c. †.

Also that according to former charters, they only pay three hundred pounds *per annum*, for the sheriffwicks of London and Middlesex. He also grants to the citizens, liberty to devise their lands in London in mortmain, or otherwise, as they were wont in former times. He likewise grants that the sheriffs of London should not be amerced any otherwise for the escape of thieves, &c. than other sheriffs on this side Trent; and that the citizens of London should not be charged with the custody of those that fly to the churches within their liberty for sanctuary, otherwise than of old accustomed, and that they may remove all wears in the Thames and Medway, and have the punishment thereof.

That all merchant-strangers that come to England to sell their merchandizes, &c. should be obliged to dispose of them in forty days: that they should not keep houses, but sojourn with the citizens, &c. he also grants that neither the marshal,

* *Infangtheft*, a liberty granted to lords of manors, to try and judge any thing taken in their fee.

† *Oufangtheft*, is a like liberty for any thief taken out of their fee.

‡ See *Holingshed*. By this charter the king granted, that the franchises of the city should not thenceforth be seized into the king's hands for any cause, but only for treason and rebellion shewed by the whole city.

steward, nor clerk of the market, of his houshold, should sit or exercise any power within the city. That the citizens should not be forced to plead out of the city. That no escheator exercise any power within the city, but that the lord mayor for the time being, execute the office of escheator, and take an oath for the due performance thereof, and account with the king and his heirs.

That the citizens, from henceforth, should not be obliged to go or send to war out of the city. That the constable of the Tower, &c. should not make any prizes in any respect, or arrest any boats bringing victual to the said city. That the citizens, as they were wont formerly, should have their keepers among themselves to hold the pleas touching their covenants or contracts, in the good fairs of England. That the sheriffs of London take no oaths at the Exchequer, but upon the giving up their accounts. He likewise restores to them all their former liberties and customs, which the justices of the Tower in their circuit had compelled them to claim, &c. He grants, that one writ of allowance of their charters should be sufficient for one king's time; and that no summons, attachments, or executions, be made by any of the king's officers within the liberties of the city, but only by the officers of the city; and that the sheriffs of the said city may lawfully take forfeitures of victuals and other things and merchandizes. He likewise grants, that if in the last circuit of the Tower, any thing was done or attempted contrary to their liberties, that the same should not be prejudicial to them, &c.

That the citizens of London, should be taxed in subsidies as other commons of the kingdom, and not as citizens. That they be quit of tallage, and that the liberty of the city be not taken into the king's hands for any personal trespass or judgment of any minister of the city; neither shall a keeper of the city for that reason be deputed, but the same minister shall be punished only according to his offence.

That no purveyor, or any other officer belonging to him or his heirs, should make any prize of the goods belonging to citizens without their consent, nor make any prize of
their

their wines against their wills, &c. He likewise forbids his purveyors or other officers, to merchandize in any commodity that related to their office. That all lands without the city, belonging to the officers of the same, be kept harmless, as their tenements are within the city. He also grants that no market be within seven miles of London. *That all inquisitions be taken by the justices of London, in St. Martins le Grand, and not elsewhere, except the inquisitions to be taken for the Tower of London, and gaol delivery of Newgate:* and that none of the freemen of the said city should be impleaded or troubled at the Exchequer, or elsewhere, by bill, except it be by those things that concern us and our heirs, &c.

“ In his second charter, granted in parliament, *ann.* 1. he grants to the city of London, the village of Southwark, with the appurtenances, paying yearly at the Exchequer the farms thereof due and accustomed.

“ In his third charter, *ann.* 11. granted in parliament to the city of London, the York statute is recited, wherein is enacted, that all merchant-strangers, as English, should sell their commodities, of what sort soever, at any cities, towns, or boroughs; notwithstanding their charters, liberties, &c. granted to the contrary. Nevertheless, the citizens of London are to enjoy their customs, according to *Magna Charta*, &c.

“ In his fourth charter, *ann.* 28. he grants, that the sergeants of London may bear maces of gold or silver, within the liberties of the city of London, or without, in their attendance upon the king or royal family.

“ In his fifth charter, granted, *ann.* 50. in parliament, he grants to the city of London, that the merchant-strangers coming into England, should board with a free host of the city, and not keep houses; and that there should be no brokers from henceforth, but what are chosen by the merchants which belong to the mystery in which the said brokers exercise their office.

“ In the same charter, upon the humble petition of the mayor, aldermen, &c. The king in parliament grants to the

city of London, that no stranger should sell any goods by retail, or keep any house, or be a broker to the said city or suburbs*.

“ Henry IV. in his charter, *ann.* 1. granted to the city of London for himself and his heirs, to the citizens and their heirs, to have the custody as well of the gates of Newgate and Ludgate as of all other gates and posterns belonging to the said city ; with the office of gathering all toll and customs in Cheap, Billingsgate, and Smithfield, and also the tronage, *i. e.* the weighing lead, wax, pepper, allum, madder, and the like.

“ Edward IV. in his first charter, *ann.* 2. grants to the city of London, for the more firm and entire establishing of the good government of the same, that they hold and enjoy all their liberties and free customs, as whole and sound as they had, and held them of any of his progenitors. He likewise grants that the mayor, recorder, and such aldermen as have been mayors, shall be discharged of the said office, and shall be justices of the peace for the putting all ordinances which are for the preservation of the peace and good government of the city, and of the suburbs and liberty thereof, as well by land as water, in execution ; and that the said mayor, recorder, and aldermen, be justices of oyer and terminer ; and that the mayor for the time being, and his successors, be of the quorum. And that the sheriffs of the city of London, be attendant upon the said justices ; and aiding and assisting to them in preserving the peace of the city, as aforesaid ; saving always to the said mayor, recorder, aldermen and citizens, their customs, liberties, &c.

“ He also grants to the city of London, that the customs of the said city be certified and recorded by word of mouth ; and that the mayor and aldermen of the city, and their successors, do declare by the recorder, whether the things un-

* A charter was granted in parliament to the city of London, *ann.* 7. R. II. See *Cotton's Records*, 294, 466, &c. By which charter all their ancient liberties and customs are restored and confirmed ; all which may be found collected, and alphabetically digested in a tract said to be compiled by Sir Henry Calthorp, knight, and printed in the year 1642.

der dispute be a custom or not; and also grants the mayor, aldermen, and commonalty of the said city, that there be no forfeiture of the premises, upon the account of any non-user, or abuser, &c.

“ Also, that all persons inhabiting within the same, or the suburbs, or liberties thereof, should be contributory in proportion to their respective faculties, &c. to all taxes, grants, and talliages, &c. excepting only the merchants of Almain, which had a house in London commonly called, Guild-hall of the Almaines.

“ That the aldermen of the said city should not be put upon affizes, attaints, or juries, so long as they continue aldermen; and that those that have borne the office of mayor, should be utterly exempted for ever.

“ Also, that the aldermen of London should not be collectors, or taxers, out of the city; and if they should be chosen to any of the said offices, they should not incur any penalty or imprisonment, upon the account of their refusal.

“ And whereas there were certain doubts concerning the use of some liberties belonging to the town of Southwark, formerly granted to the citizens of London by king Edward III. this king grants to the said city in a very large and extensive manner, *the said town of Southwark, with all the appurtenances*; and also all waifs, estrays, &c. and all treasure-trove in the town aforesaid, of all handy-works, goods and chattles of all traitors, felons, fugitives, and outlaws.

“ Also all goods disclaimed, or found in the said town, with all escheats and forfeitures, as fully and wholly as he should have, if the town were in his own hands; and that it shall be lawful for the mayor, &c. to put themselves into possession thereof.

“ He also grants to the mayor and commonalty of London, the assize of bread, wine, &c. victuals, and things salable in the said town; as also the clerkship of the market belonging to the said town, with all forfeitures and fines.

“ And that the execution and return of writs, &c. be by the officers of the city of London, and that neither the king's clerk

clerk of the market, *nor the sheriff of Surry*, do in any respect intermeddle therein.

“ Also to hold a fair three days in the year, viz. the seventh, eighth, and ninth days of September, and that they may from time to time, have a court of pyepowders, with all summons, attachments, &c. belonging to the same, and also that they may have a view of frank-pledge, with all that thereunto appertaineth, &c.

“ He also grants that the mayor, commonalty, or their deputies, may take and arrest all felons, thieves, &c. and *commit them to Newgate, which are apprehended in Southwark*; and further grants to the mayor and his successors, &c. that they may for ever have the town aforesaid, with all the liberties, &c. in as large a manner as if the same were in his own hands, paying for the same only ten pounds, for the antient farm; the rights of the archbishop of Canterbury only excepted.

“ In his second charter, *ann. 3.* he grants to the mayor, commonalty, &c. the * *tronage* and weighing of wool, by whom, or from whatsoever parts brought to the said city of London, and that all wool that formerly was brought to the staple of Westminster, be henceforth brought to Leadenhall, within the said city; and, that there be no other staple within three miles of the same, &c.

“ In his third charter, *ann. 18.* he grants to the citizens of London, &c. upon their releasing of one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three pounds, nine shillings, and eight pence, out of a certain sum of twelve thousand nine hundred and twenty-three pounds, nine shillings and eight pence, then owing to the city from the king, license to purchase two hundred marks per annum, in † *mortmain*; and also grants to any person, liberty to grant to the said city of London, two hundred marks per annum, in *mortmain*, as

* *Tronage*, is a duty paid at the city beam, for weighing lead, wax, pepper, allum, &c.

† *Mortmain*, an alienation of lands and tenements to any gild, corporation, or fraternity, which might not be done without the king's licence.

aforesaid,

aforesaid, to enjoy and hold the same, without any letters patent, or any inquisition upon any writ of *ad quod damnum*, or any other the king's commandments, &c. with privilege to have as many writs of *ad quod damnum*, as shall be sufficient for their utmost satisfaction for the said sum of one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three pounds, nine shillings, and eight pence*.

“ In his fourth charter, *ann.* 18. he grants to the said citizens of London, in parliament, in consideration of the sum of seven thousand pounds, the respective offices of packing, portage, garbling, gauging, and wine drawing, the same to be executed by them, or their sufficient deputies; and also grants them, in consideration of the said sum of seven thousand pounds, the office of coroner, with power to the mayor and commonalty, to grant the said office of coroner to whom they pleased; and also that the mayor and aldermen, &c. as aforesaid, might have full power and authority to exercise the said office of coroner; he causes the said offices of chief butler and coroner, to be divided, and made two separate and distinct offices—and that no other coroner, but the coroner belonging to the city of London, do intermeddle in any respect in the said city.

“ Henry VII. *ann.* 1. grants to the city by his charter, that if any strangers to the city of London, buy any wares or merchandize of any person, being likewise a stranger to the said city, that all merchandizes so bought, should be forfeited, &c. That any stranger, &c. may buy any quantities of commodities in gross, but not to sell again. He likewise confirms to them the office of gauger within the said city, to hold the same with all fees, profits, &c.

“ Henry VIII. in his first charter, *ann.* 10. grants, that the inquisitions, &c. formerly taken in St. Martin's le Grand, *should be from henceforth taken in London*, except only inquisitions taken in eyre in the Tower of London, and for the gaol delivery of Newgate.

“ By his second charter, *ann.* 22. he cancels Sir William Sidney's patent, relating to the great beam and common balance, belonging to the city of London, and declares, that

* This charter was confirmed in parliament, 3 Hen. VIII.

the keeping the said beam and weights belong to the city, by prescription; and ordains, that the weights and beams for weighing merchants commodities, be and ought to be in the hands of persons chosen by the mayor and commonalty; and that they shall have the tronage, (that is, the weighing of wax, lead, pepper, allum, &c.) and be keepers of the great beam, and common balances as granted by Henry IV.

“ In the same charter, the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, are ordained keepers of the beams, weights, &c. with power and authority to make and assign clerks, porters, &c. of the said great beam and balance, and of the iron beam, and of the beam of the still yard and weights aforesaid, with all the fees and profits thereto belonging, without account, &c.

“ Edward VI. *ann.* 4. in his charter *, grants to the mayor of London, &c. several messuages in Southwark, with their appurtenances, except the capital messuage, called Southwark Palace, the Park, and Antelope, with all the garden ground, buildings, &c. thereto belonging.

“ He further grants the manor of Southwark, belonging to the late monastery of Bermondsey, with all appurtenances; and also the manor and borough of Southwark, late parcel of the possession of the archbishop of Canterbury, with several other lands, tenements, &c. in as full and large a manner as the Duke of Suffolk, or any abbot of Bermondsey, or archbishop of Canterbury did enjoy the same; and in as full and large a manner as the same, did or ought to have come to his father, Henry VIII. &c.

“ He likewise grants in consideration of five hundred marks paid into the treasury, &c. several other things to the mayor, &c. viz. waifs, estrays, treasure found, goods of traitors, felons, fugitives, outlaws, and deodands, and also all escheats and forfeitures formerly belonging to the king and his heirs, &c.

“ Also, that the mayor, and commonalty, should have the assize of bread, wine, beer, and ale, &c. and whatsoever

* This part of the charter, with remarks on its infraction, has been more particularly noticed in p. 129, &c. of this volume.

did belong to the clerk of the market ; as likewise the execution and return of writs, warrants, &c.

“ He further grants them a fair for three days every year, in Southwark, with a court of piepoudre *, with all liberties and free custom to such a court appertaining.

“ He likewise grants them a view of frankpledge, together with all summons, attachments, arrests, issues, profits, &c. which therefore may, or ought, to belong to the king, his heirs, and successors, &c.

“ He also grants them liberty to apprehend felons, thieves, and other malefactors within the said town, borough, &c. and to carry them to Newgate, there to be kept till they shall be delivered by due course of law : and also grants, that the mayor, commonalty, &c. have the same liberties in the borough and town aforesaid, as the king should have, if the same were in his hands.

“ He likewise grants, that they should hold pleas in London for matters in Southwark ; and that the jurors in Southwark, making default before the mayor and sheriffs of London, should forfeit their issues, and suffer such amercements as the men impannelled and summoned in the said city of London, are liable to.

“ He further grants, that the mayor and commonalty, &c. have cognizance of all manner of pleas, actions, complaints, and suits personal arising in Southwark ; and also grants that the mayor, &c. may choose two coroners for Southwark, and that no coroner belonging to the king, have any power to intermeddle there.

“ He likewise grants, that the mayor of London be † escheator in Southwark, and that no other intermeddle : and that the said mayor be clerk of the market in Southwark, and that the king’s clerk of the market do not intermeddle, &c.

“ He further grants them franchises, stallages, pick-

* *Piepoudre* (*pieds poudreux, dusty feet*) a court established at fairs, wherein all causes were to be summarily determined, or while the *dust* was still on the *feet* of the offender.

† *Escheator*, an officer who looked after the lands or profits that fell to the king within his manor, either by forfeiture or death.

ages, &c. which any archbishop of Canterbury, or the said Duke of Suffolk, &c. did enjoy ; and that none of the king's officers or ministers do intermeddle in any respect in the said town and borough of Southwark.

“ He likewise grants, that all and singular the inhabitants of Southwark, be under the magistracy and government of the mayor and officers of London, as the citizens and inhabitants of the said city be ; and that the said mayor, &c. have the same jurisdiction in Southwark as in London, &c.

“ He grants also, that the mayor, recorder, and aldermen, that are justices of the peace in London, shall be justices of the peace in Southwark ; and that there be markets in Southwark, for four days a week. Provided nevertheless, that this grant doth not prejudice the steward of the king's house, &c.

“ He moreover grants, to save the city harmless against all * corrodies, rates, fees, and annuities, given out, or to be paid out of the premisses, reserving to himself the services in the said charter reserved, and the fee farm of ten pounds per annum.

“ King James I. in his charter, grants the mayor, &c. to be chief bailiff, and have the conservation of the river of Thames, and the extent of his jurisdiction to be westward to Stanes bridge, in the county of Middlesex, and eastward as far as Kendal, alias, Yendal, or Yen-Leet, with all the fees and profits thereunto belonging.

“ He likewise grants to the mayor, &c. to have the office of measuring all coals and grain, and of all salt, apples, &c. and to take the fees and profits belonging to the said office, to the sole use of him the said mayor, &c. without any lett or hindrance of the king, or any other person, and to hold the said office without account, and that no other water-bailiff, conservator, or measurer, intermeddle : and the grants of the said officers to remain firm to the mayor, &c. notwithstanding any non-user, or abuser of the same.

* *Corrody*, an allowance of meat and drink out of a religious or other house, towards maintenance of any person whom the king should appoint, or money paid in lieu thereof.

“ King James I. in the preamble of his second charter, makes a full and general confirmation of all former charters granted to the city of London, and repeats the several names of the corporations of the city of London; and likewise grants them a restitution of all liberties to all intents and purposes, as fully and largely as their ancestors enjoyed them; and although they have not used, or have abused them, nevertheless he grants that they may use them for the time to come.

“ He grants likewise, that they hold their precincts as they were formerly accustomed, and determines the liberties of the city of London to extend and stretch forth likewise to Duke's Place, St. Bartholomew's Great and Less, Black Friars, White Friars, and Cold Harburgh, and the respective inhabitants thereof, to be within the precincts of London, with a proviso that the inhabitants of Black and White Friars, be exempt from certain taxes, fifteens, &c. and that the inhabitants aforesaid be quit from the office of constable, scavenger, &c.

“ Nevertheless he grants, that the mayor, &c. by their own officers, may levy all such aids, tallages, grants, and contributions, which are not excepted in the said charter; and that the justices of London should have jurisdiction in Black Friars, White Friars, Duke's Place, Great and Little St. Bartholomew's, and Cold Harburgh, with power to take security for the preservation of the peace, and to commit the refusers to prison.

“ He further grants, that the mayor and recorder, and such other justices that are customarily justices in the city, be justices of oyer and terminer, and that the mayor for the time being, and the recorder, be always of the *quorum*, and that no other justices do intermeddle in the city and liberties aforesaid; and that the sheriffs of London be aiding and assisting to the said justices.

“ He likewise grants, that all treasures found within the said city, all waifs, estrays, and all goods and chattels of felons, fugitives, &c. belong to the said city, and that they

have these letters patent under the great seal, without any fee or fine in the Hanaper, &c.

“ In his third charter, London is stiled his Royal Chamber, and therein is granted, that the city have the measuring of all coals brought to the city of London, as likewise the weighing of coals, with all the fees and profits belonging to the same; and that the said office be executed by the mayor, or his deputies.

“ In the same charter, the fees for weighing of coals are settled at eight-pence per ton, the same to be to the use of the mayor and commonalty of the city of London; and withal it is provided, that no merchant unlade his coals till the mayor have notice, to the intent, that having a true estimate of the quantity of coals brought to the city of London, he may be able to satisfy the king in that particular, when demanded.

“ In the same charter all forestalling and regrating of coals is prohibited, all selling of coals by retail in lighters forbidden, and no markets for the future to be in lighters. And further he grants, that if, after the sealing of these letters patent, any defect should appear, others should be granted more advantageous and effectual.

“ King Charles I. begins his first charter with an acknowledgement of the good services of the city of London, and confirms all their former letters patent, except those in the same charter excepted. He likewise repeats the several names of the corporations of London, and makes a restitution of all their liberties, except some few that are therein excepted.

“ In the same charter a recital is made of the charter of the twenty-sixth of October, in the twenty-third year of Henry VI. and likewise the soil, &c. of the streets, and of the Thames, is granted to the city; and then all other charters of the said king Henry VI. are made void, and some doubts are mentioned concerning the validity of the charter granted to the city of London, the twentieth of Henry VII. after which the said king Charles grants as follows.

“ That

“ That the mayor, recorder, and aldermen, belonging to the city of London, be justices of the peace; and to commit those to the prison of Newgate, &c. who shall refuse to find securities for the preservation of the peace, as aforesaid; and to do and execute all such things which justices and keepers of the peace in any county of England do, or are wont to do.

“ He likewise grants, that four of the said justices, the mayor, or recorder to be always one, may hold a sessions, to enquire into several offences, viz. into weights and measures, and selling victuals contrary to the statutes, &c. to receive and inspect into indictments taken before them, to make and continue process, and punish offenders according to the laws of the kingdom, and the custom of the city; and also grants them power to execute the laws as fully and largely as any other justices of the peace in any other county; and that the sheriffs, &c. attend, aid, and assist the said justices when desired.

“ He also grants them the forfeiture of recognizances, particularly those relating to bastard children, inmates, and alehouses; with recognizances for appearance at the sessions of gaol delivery, fines and issues of jurors within the city of London, excepting only royal issues, &c.

“ He likewise grants them all recognizances taken, or to be taken, for the security of the peace or good behaviour, with all recognizances taken in the court for the river of Thames, and all things thereunto appertaining; as likewise all fines, amerciaments and penalties, adjudged by the mayor, &c. relating or any ways belonging to his said courts, as conservator of the river Thames; and also all fines, &c. imposed by commissioners of sewers, the same to be holden to the mayor, &c. without account.

“ He likewise grants to the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London, and their successors, the fields commonly known by the name of Moorfields, both outward and inward, and likewise the field commonly called West Smithfield, with liberty to hold fairs and markets in the said fields,
with

with all tolls, profits, &c. thereunto belonging: reserving the streets, waste ground, common soil, &c. within the city liberties; to hold the same in free burgage, and not in capite, with pardon and remittance of all issues relating to the said premisses, without any writ of *ad quod damnum*; and also pardon of all intrusions, except such which relate to churches and church walls.

“ He also grants the office of garbling spices, &c. to the mayor and citizens of London. The said mayor, &c. to hold and enjoy the said office, with all the fees, profits, &c. without rendering any account to the king, his heirs, or successors, the garbling of tobacco only excepted.

“ He likewise grants the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, the office of gauging, with all the fees, profits, and emoluments, lawfully belonging to the said office, the same to be executed by them or their deputy, without account, and the fees, &c. to be appointed and allowed by the lords chancellor, treasurer, and president of the council, and the two chief justices of the King’s Bench and Common Pleas.

“ He also grants to the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, the office of keeper of the great balance or weight within the city of London, for weighing all merchandizes of aveirdupois, and also all other weights for weighing any sort of wares or merchandizes within the said city, with all the fees and profits, &c. thereto belonging, &c.

“ He also grants to the mayor, commonalty, &c. the office of outrouper, or common-crier, with liberty to exercise the same by themselves, or deputy. The said deputy to be chosen by the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, in common council, with power to take the fees expressed in a schedule annexed to his said charter, and that no other presume to sell any goods by outcriers within the city and liberties of London, under the pain of the royal displeasure.

“ He likewise grants, that freemens widows should use their husbands arts and manual occupations, so long as they continued widows, notwithstanding the statute made the fifth year of the reign of queen Elizabeth, or any other statute

tute to the contrary. He likewise for the benefit of the city of London grants, that there be no market within seven miles of the said city; and further grants, that according to the antient custom of the said city, the mayor and aldermen, &c. should record their customs by the mouth of their recorder, touching any plea, deed, cause or business relating to the city of London.

“ He further grants to the said mayor, &c. all treasure found in the city of London, and liberties thereof, with all waived or strayed goods and chattels of all felons, fugitives, &c. He likewise grants, that the mayor of London for the time being, should nominate two aldermen for justices of the peace, the one to act, and be inserted in all commissions in Middlesex, the other in the county of Surrey.

“ He likewise grants, touching freemen, that the sons of freemen and others, should be obliged to take up their freedom, &c. and that no person should transport any goods from the port of London, or use any merchandize within ten miles distance of any port thereof, without becoming a freeman, and producing a testimonial under the hands of the chamberlain, to prove the same; and that no merchant, free of London, from henceforth, take any person to serve him after the manner of an apprentice, for any less term than seven years.

“ He likewise grants the city of London a court of conscience or request, for the trying all small debts under forty shillings; the said court to be kept in the Guildhall, and the proceedings to be by way of plaint and summons, and the officers of the said court to be in the choice of the mayor, commonalty, &c. and to take such fees which are expressed in the schedule annexed to his letters patent.

“ He also grants to the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, the office of brokers of pawns, &c. and that the fees be the same that are expressed in the schedule annexed: and that the citizens for the better finding out their respective dwellings, might hang out signs. And likewise grants to the said mayor, commonalty, &c. the keeping of the hospital called Bethlehem, with the manors, lands, &c. belonging to the same;
and

and the better to enable them to support the burthen of the poor in the house called, the House of the Poor in West Smithfield, he grants that the mayor, &c. should be governor of the said hospital of Bethlem, and that the revenues, &c. be applied to the uses before mentioned.

“ He also declares, that no lease of any hospital lands should be let for any term of years, exceeding one and twenty, He furthermore grants to the mayor and commonalty, &c. liberty to purchase five acres of land in St. Giles's in the Fields, notwithstanding the statute of mortmain, &c. with liberty to build on the said five acres, without any royal licence; and withal grants, that these letters patent, and the inrollment, should be good and firm, and effectual in law against him and his successors, without any other toleration, or confirmation, &c. and that the said letters patent should be sealed by the Great Seal of England, without paying or making any fine or fee in the hanaper *.

“ King Charles I. in another charter, in consideration of four thousand two hundred pounds, creates the several offices of package, portage, or balliage, and after grants the same to the mayor, commonalty, &c. of London, with all the fees and profits expressed in a schedule annexed to the said charters; and also the office or employment of scavage, with all the fees and profits expressed in the table, &c. paying yearly to the king and his successors, three pounds six shillings and eight pence; he likewise empowers the mayor, &c. to administer the oath in case of concealed goods, &c.”

“ All which charters were confirmed by the present king at Westminster, the twenty-fourth day of June, in the fifteenth year of his reign.”

By a judgment in the 35th year, Charles II. the franchises of the city of London were seized into the king's hands, upon a pretended forfeiture, but by statute 2 William and Mary, sess. 1. *cap.* 8. reciting, that “ whereas a judgment was given in the King's Bench in Trinity term, in the 35th

* Hanaper, an office in chancery, wherein are paid all monies due to the king for the sale of charters, patents, &c. and to the officers for enrolling the same.

year of king Charles II. in a *Quo Warranto* against the mayor, and commonalty, and citizens of London, that the franchise of the said city should be seized into the king's hands, as forfeited, which proceedings were illegal and arbitrary; it was enacted, that the said judgment, and every other judgment, given or recorded in the said court, for seizing the franchise of the said city into the king's hands, be reversed and made void, and vacats entered upon the rolls; as will be more fully noticed in this and the ensuing reigns."

The year 1665 was productive of an act of common-council for the reformation of carmen and woodmongers, who had for several years oppressed the city by innovations and extortions. By this act, the number of carts was limited to four hundred and twenty, and they were placed under the regulation of the president and governors of Christ's Hospital. The price of carriage was limited yearly by the court of aldermen; and coal sacks and measures sealed at Guildhall.

That the poor might be constantly supplied with coals in times of scarcity, and to defeat the combination of dealers in that article, the several city companies under-mentioned, were ordered to purchase and lay up yearly, between Lady-Day and Michaelmas, the following quantities of coals, which in dear times were to be vended in such manner, and at such prices, as the lord mayor and court of aldermen should by written precept direct; so that the coals should not be sold to loss:

	Chaldrons.		Chaldrons.
Mercers - - -	488	Clothworkers - - -	412
Grocers - - -	675	Dyers - - -	105
Drapers - - -	562	Brewers - - -	104
Fishmongers - - -	465	Leathersellers - - -	210
Goldsmiths - - -	525	Pewterers - - -	52
Skinners - - -	315	Cutlers - - -	75
Merchant Taylors - - -	750	White-Bakers - - -	45
Haberdashers - - -	578	Wax-Chandlers - - -	19
Salters - - -	360	Tallow-Chandlers - - -	97
Ironmongers - - -	255	Armourers - - -	19
Vintners - - -	375	Girdlers - - -	105
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Chaldrons.				Chaldrons.			
Butchers	-	-	22	Blacksmiths	-	-	15
Sadlers	-	-	90	Apothecaries	-	-	45
Carpenters	-	-	38	Joiners	-	-	22
Cordwainers	-	-	60	Weavers	-	-	27
Barber-Surgeons	-	-	60	Woolmen	-	-	3
Painter-Stainers	-	-	12	Woodmongers	-	-	60
Curriers	-	-	11	Scriveners	-	-	60
Masons	-	-	22	Fruiterers	-	-	7
Plumbers	-	-	19	Plasterers	-	-	8
Innholders	-	-	45	Brown-Bakers	-	-	12
Founders	-	-	7	Stationers	-	-	75
Poulterers	-	-	12	Embroiderers	-	-	30
Cooks	-	-	30	Upholders	-	-	9
Coopers	-	-	52	Musicians	-	-	6
Tylers and Bricklayers	19			Turners	-	-	13
Bowyers	-	-	3	Basket-makers	-	-	6
Fletchers	-	-	3	Glaziers	-	-	6

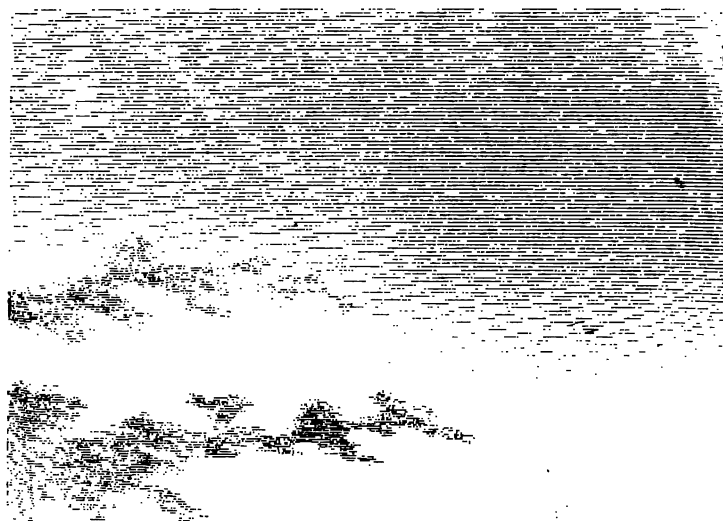
It is uncertain by what means this excellent institution sunk into disuse. Certainly it was well calculated to remove the inconveniences arising to the poor, both from the want of coals in times of scarcity, and the impositions of private dealers in that commodity.

All retail dealers in coals, by the same act, were prohibited from meeting the vessels, or by their agents contracting for that commodity, before the ships were arrived in the port of London; on the penalty of five shillings for every chaldron so forestalled, or bought by pre-contract.

An account was published this year by Captain Graunt, F. R. S. concerning the extent, population, &c. of the city up to this period, by which it appeared, that the number of men capable of bearing arms, was eighty-one thousand two hundred and thirty-three*.

But

* Captain Graunt's account of the city of London, is worthy of observation. He dates his enquiry from the year 1593, when "there died in the ninety-seven parishes within the walls, and the sixteen without the walls (besides four hundred and twenty-one of the plague) three thousand five hundred and eight. And the next year three thousand



References

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| 1 <i>S^t Pauls</i> | 7 <i>S^t Sepulchres</i> |
| 2 <i>S^t Dunstons</i> | 8 <i>Bow Church</i> |
| 3 <i>Temple</i> | 9 <i>Guild-hall</i> |
| 4 <i>S^t Brides</i> | 10 <i>S^t Michaels</i> |
| 5 <i>S^t Andrews</i> | 11 <i>S^t Laurence Poultry</i> |
| 6 <i>Baywards Castle</i> | 12 <i>Old Swan</i> |

A. V.

But London was now to experience calamities which shook her to her foundation. Scarcely had she sheathed the sword of

thousand four hundred and seventy-eight, besides twenty-nine of the plague: in both years, six thousand nine hundred and eighty-six. Twenty years after, there died in the same ninety-seven and sixteen parishes, twelve thousand one hundred and ten, viz. *anno* 1614, five thousand eight hundred and seventy-three; and *anno* 1615, six thousand two hundred and thirty-seven: so as the said parishes were increased, in the said time, from seven to twelve, or very near thereabouts. The burials within the like space of the next twenty years, viz. *anno* 1634 and 1635, were fifteen thousand six hundred and twenty-five, viz. as about twenty-four to thirty-one: which last of the three numbers, fifteen thousand six hundred and twenty-five, is much more than double the first six thousand nine hundred and eighty-six; viz. the said parishes had in forty years increased from twenty-three to fifty-two: and although necessitated to compound the said ninety-seven with the sixteen parishes, yet the sixteen parishes had increased faster than the ninety-seven. For, in the year 1620, there died within the walls two thousand seven hundred and twenty-six, and in 1660, there died but three thousand and ninety-eight, (both years being clear of the plague:) so that in forty years, the ninety-seven parishes had increased nearly from nine to ten, because the housing of the said ninety-seven parishes could be no otherwise increased, than by turning great houses into tenements, and building upon a few gardens.

“ In the year 1604, there died in the ninety-seven parishes one thousand five hundred and eighteen, and of the plague two hundred and eighty. And in the year 1660, three thousand and ninety-eight, and none of the plague; so that in fifty-six years the said parishes had doubled. It is to be observed, that as in the said year 1604, was the very next year after the great plague 1603 (when the city was not yet re-peopled) we shall rather make the comparison between two thousand and fourteen, which died *anno* 1605, and three thousand four hundred and thirty-one, *anno* 1659; choosing rather hence to assert, that the said ninety-seven and sixteen parishes increased from twenty to thirty-four, or from ten. to seventeen in fifty-four years, than from one to two in fifty-six.

“ In 1605, there died in the seventeen out-parishes two thousand nine hundred and seventy-four, and in 1659, six thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight: so as in fifty-four years, the said parishes increased from three to seven.

“ In 1605, died in the eight out-parishes nine hundred and sixty; in 1659, died in the same scope of ground, although now called ten parishes, (the Savoy and Covent Garden being added) four thousand three

of civil war, than heaven in its dispensation destroyed her citizens by pestilence in the awful and calamitous year 1665 ;

hundred and one : so as the said parishes had increased within the said fifty-four years, more than from one to four. There were buried in all, in 1605, five thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, and in 1659, fourteen thousand seven hundred and twenty, viz. about two to five.

“ Having set down the proportions, wherein was found the three great divisions of the whole pile, called London, to have increased ; he comes next to shew what particular parishes had the most remarkable share in these augmentations. Thus, of the ninety-seven parishes within the walls, the increase was not discernible, but where great houses, formerly belonging to noblemen, before they built others near Whitehall, had been turned into tenements ; on which account, Alhallows upon the Wall, had increased upon the conversion of the Marquis of Winchester's house, lately the Spanish ambassador's, into a new street ; the same of alderman Freeman's, (now Freeman's Court,) and La Motte's, near the Exchange ; of the Earl of Arundel's, in Lothbury ; of the bishop of London's, the dean of St. Paul's, and the Lord River's house, now (Savage Gardens,) Tower Hill ; as also of the Duke's Place, and others.

“ Of the sixteen newest parishes without the walls, St. Giles Cripplegate had been most enlarged, next St. Olave's, Southwark, St. Andrew's, Holborn, Whitechapel, the difference in the rest not considerable.

“ Of the out-parishes, then called ten, formerly nine, and before that eight, Saint Giles's and Saint Martin's in the Fields were most increased, notwithstanding Saint Paul's Covent Garden was taken out of them both.

“ The general observation, which arose, was, that the city of London gradually removed westward, and did not the Royal Exchange and London Bridge stay the trade, it would remove much faster : Leadenhall Street, Bishopsgate, and part of Fenchurch Street, had lost their antient trade ; Gracechurch Street, had indeed, kept itself yet entire, by reason of its conjunction with and relation to London Bridge.

“ Canning Street, and Watling Street, had lost their trade of woollen-drapery to Paul's Church Yard, Ludgate Hill, and Fleet Street : the mercery was gone out of Lombard Street and Cheapside, into Pater-noster Row, and Fleet Street.

“ The reasons whereof were, that the king's court (in old times frequently kept in the city) was now always at Westminster. Secondly, the use of coaches, whereunto the narrow streets of the old city were unfit, had caused the building of those broader streets in Covent Garden, &c.

“ Thirdly,

1665 *; and the next year her whole surface was desolated by fire. The buildings looked as if they had been formed for conflagration, whenever any wicked incendiaries should attempt it; the streets were narrow, and the houses built with timber, lath and plaster, as before described.

And though by the new buildings after the fire, much ground was given up to enlarge the streets, the old houses stood generally upon more ground, were much larger upon the flat, and in many places gardens, and large yards about them: so that there are many more houses built than stood before on the same ground.

“ Thirdly, where the consumption of commodity was, viz. among the gentry, the venders of the same must seat themselves.

“ Fourthly, the cramming up of the void spaces and gardens within the walls with houses, to the prejudice of light and air, had made men build new ones, where they less feared those inconveniencies.

“ Conformity in building to other civil nations, had disposed us to let our old wooden dark houses fall to decay, and to build new ones, whereby to answer all the ends above mentioned.

“ Where note, that when Ludgate was the only western gate of the city, little building was westward thereof: but, when Holborn began to increase, Newgate was made. But now both these gates were not sufficient for the communication between the walled city, and its enlarged western suburbs, as daily appeared by the intolerable stoppages of coaches near both these gates, especially Ludgate.

“ The Captain next offers to consideration the inequality of parishes in and about London, evident in proportion of their respective burials; for in the same year that were buried in Cripplegate Parish one thousand one hundred and ninety-one, but twelve died in Trinity Minories, Saint Saviour's, Southwark, and Botolph's, Bishopsgate, being of the middle size, as burying five and six hundred *per annum*: so that according to his calculation, Cripplegate was an hundred times as big as the Minories, and two hundred times as big as St. John the Evangelist's, St. Mary Cole-Church, St. Bennet's, Gracechurch, St. Matthew, Friday Street, and some others within the city.”

* The number of burials this year, computed by the bills of mortality, were ninety-seven thousand three hundred and six, of which sixty-eight thousand five hundred and ninety-six, were attributed to the plague; but this estimate must certainly have been very defective, it being the general opinion at that time, that the plague destroyed at least one hundred thousand.

Thus

Thus Swithin's Alley, by the Royal Exchange, was a merchant's house, of that name; upon the same ground now stand about twenty-two or twenty-four houses.

Copthall Court, in Throgmorton Street, was also a single house, inhabited by a Dutch merchant: as were three more courts in the same street, which were single houses, two on the same side of the way, and one on the other.

One great house, with warehouses, where Mr. Kendrick formerly lived, took up almost all the ground on which a street of houses, called Prince's Street, going through into Lothbury, was erected.

King's Arms Yard, in Coleman Street, now built into fine large houses, and inhabited by eminent merchants, was, a stable-yard for horses, and an inn, which gave the sign of the King's Arms. Indeed so many great houses were converted into streets, courts, alleys, and buildings, that near four thousand houses stand on the ground which the fire left desolate, more than stood on the same ground before.

The most authentic account of this dreadful calamity is from the London Gazette, and the following testimony of Lord Clarendon, who was an eye witness of its progress:

“ It was upon the first day of that September, in the dismal year of 1666 (in which many prodigies were expected, and so many really fell out) that the memorable and terrible fire brake out in London, which began about midnight, or nearer the morning of Sunday, in a baker's house near the end of Thames Street, next the Tower, there being many little narrow alleys, and very poor houses, about the place where it first appeared; and then finding such store of combustible materials, as that street is always furnished with in timber houses, the fire prevailed so powerfully, that the whole street and the neighbourhood was in so short a time turned to ashes, that few persons had time to save and preserve any of their goods; but were a heap of people almost as dead with the sudden distraction, as the ruins were which they sustained. The magistrates of the city assembled quickly together, and with the usual remedies of buckets, which they were provided with: but the fire was too ravenous

venous to be extinguished with such quantities of water as those instruments could apply to it, and fastened still upon new materials before it had destroyed the old. And though it raged furiously all that day, to that degree that all men stood amazed, as spectators only, no man knowing what remedy to apply, nor the magistrates what orders to give: yet it kept within some compass, burned what was next, and laid hold only on both sides; and the greatest apprehension was of the Tower, and all considerations entered upon how to secure that place.

“ But in the night the wind changed, and carried the danger from thence, but with so great and irresistible violence, that it scattered the fire from pursuing the line it was in with all its force, and spread it over the city: so that they, who went late to bed at a great distance from any place where the fire prevailed, they were awakened before morning with their own houses being in a flame; and whilst endeavour was used to quench that, other houses were discovered to be burning, which were near no place from whence they could imagine the fire could come; all which kindled another fire in the breasts of men, almost as dangerous as that within their houses.

“ Monday morning produced first a jealousy, and then an universal conclusion, that this fire came not by chance, nor did they care where it began; but the breaking out in several places at so great distance from each other made it evident, that it was by conspiracy and combination. And this determination could not hold long without discovery of the wicked authors, who were concluded to be all the Dutch and all the French in the town, though they had inhabited the same places above twenty years. All of that kind, or, if they were strangers, of what nation soever, were laid hold of; and after all the ill usage that can consist in words, and some blows and kicks, they were thrown into prison. And shortly after, the same conclusion comprehended all the Roman Catholics, who were in the same predicament of guilt and danger, and quickly found that their only safety consisted in
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keeping within doors; and yet some of them, and of quality, were taken by force out of their houses, and carried to prison.

“ When this rage spread as far as the fire, and every hour brought reports of some bloody effects of it, worse than in truth there were, the king distributed many of the privy council into several quarters of the city, to prevent, by their authorities, those inhumanities which he heard were committed. In the mean time, even they, or any other person, thought it not safe to declare, ‘ that they believed that the fire came by accident, or that it was not a plot of the Dutch and the French and Papists, to burn the city ;’ which was so generally believed, and in the best company, that he who said the contrary was suspected for a conspirator, or at best a favourer of them. It could not be conceived, how a house that was distant a mile from any part of the fire could suddenly be in a flame, without some particular malice ; and this case fell out every hour. When a man at the farthest end of Bread Street had made a shift to get out of his house his best and most portable goods, because the fire had approached near them, he no sooner had secured them, as he thought, in some friend’s house in Holborn, which was believed a safe distance, but he saw that very house, and none else near it, in a sudden flame : nor did there want, in this woful distemper, the testimony of witnesses who saw this villainy committed, and apprehended men who they were ready to swear threw fire balls into houses, which were presently burning.

“ The Lord Hollis and Lord Ashley, who had their quarters assigned about Newgate Market, and the streets adjacent, had many brought to them in custody for crimes of this nature ; and saw, within a very little distance from the place where they were, the people gathered together in great disorder ; and as they came nearer, saw a man in the middle of them without a hat or cloak, pulled and hauled, and very ill used, whom they knew to be a servant to the Portugal ambassador, who was presently brought to them.

And

And a substantial citizen was ready to take his oath, ' that he saw that man put his hand into his pocket, and throw into a shop a fire-ball; upon which he saw the house immediately on fire: whereupon, being on the other side of the way, and seeing this, he cried out to the people to stop that gentleman, and made all the haste he could himself;' but the people had first seized upon him, and taken away his sword, which he was ready to draw; and he not speaking nor understanding English, they had used him in the manner set down before. The Lord Hollis told him what he was accused of, and ' that he was seen to have thrown somewhat out of his pocket, which they thought to be a fire-ball, into a house which was now on fire:' and the people had diligently searched his pockets to find more of the same commodity, but found nothing that they meant to accuse him of. The man standing in great amazement to hear he was so charged, the Lord Hollis asked him, ' what it was he pulled out of his pocket, and what it was he threw into the house:' to which he answered, ' that he did not think that he had put his hand into his pocket; but he remembered very well, that as he walked in the street, he saw a piece of bread upon the ground, which he took up and laid upon a shelf in the next house;' which is a custom or superstition so natural to the Portuguese, that if the king of Portugal were walking, and saw a piece of bread upon the ground, he would take it up with his own hand, and keep it till he saw a fit place to lay it down.

“ The house being in view, the lords with many of the people walked to it, and found the piece of bread just within the door upon a board, where he said he laid it; and the house on fire was two doors beyond it, which the man who was on the other side of the way, and saw this man put his hand into the house without staying, and presently after the fire break out, concluded to be the same house; which was very natural in the fright that all men were in: nor did the lords, though they were satisfied, set the poor man at liberty; but, as if there remained ground enough of suspicion, committed him to the constable, to be kept by him in

his own house for some hours, when they pretended they would examine him again. Nor were any persons who were seized upon in the same manner, as multitudes were in all parts of the town, especially if they were strangers or Papists, presently discharged, when there was no reasonable ground to suspect; but all sent to prison, where they were in much more security than they could have been in full liberty, after they were once known to have been suspected; and most of them understood their commitment to be upon that ground, and were glad of it.

“ The fire and the wind continued in the same excess all Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday till afternoon, and flung and scattered brands burning into all quarters; the nights more terrible than the days, and the light the same, the light of the fire supplying that of the sun. And indeed, whoever was an eye witness of that terrible prospect, can never have so lively an image of the Last Conflagration till he beholds it; the faces of all people in a wonderful dejection and discomposure, not knowing where they could repose themselves for one hour’s sleep, and no distance thought secure from the fire, which suddenly started up, before it was suspected; so that people left their houses, and carried away their goods from many places which received no hurt, and whither they afterwards returned again; all the fields full of women and children, who had made a shift to bring thither some goods and conveniences to rest upon, as safer than any houses, where yet they felt such intolerable heat and drought, as if they had been in the middle of the fire. The king and the duke, who rode from one place to another, and put themselves into great dangers amongst the burning and falling houses, to give advice and direction what was to be done, underwent as much fatigue as the meanest, and had as little sleep or rest; and the face of all men appeared ghastly, and in the highest confusion. The country sent in carts to help those miserable people who had saved any goods: and by this means, and the help of coaches, all the neighbouring villages were filled with more people than they could

could contain, and more goods than they could find room for ; so that those fields became likewise as full as the others about London and Westminster.

“ It was observed, that where the fire prevailed most, when it met with brick buildings, if it was not repulsed, it was so well resisted, that it made a much slower progress ; and when it had done its worst, that the timber and all the combustible matter fell, it fell down to the bottom within the house, and the walls stood and enclosed the fire, and it was burned out without making a farther progress in many of those places ; and then the vacancy so interrupted the fury, of it, that many times the two or three next houses stood without much damage. Besides the spreading, insomuch as all London seemed but one fire in the breadth of it, it seemed to continue in its full fury a direct line to the Thames side, all Cheapside, from beyond the Exchange, through Fleet Street ; insomuch as for that breadth, taking in both sides as far as the Thames, there was scarce a house or church standing from the bridge to Dorset House, which was burned on Tuesday night after Baynard’s Castle.

“ On Wednesday morning, when the king saw that neither the fire decreased, nor the wind lessened, he even despaired of preserving Whitehall, but was more afraid of Westminster Abbey. But having observed by his having visited all places, that where there was any vacant places between the houses, where the progress of the fire was menacing, they changed its course, and went to the other side ; he gave order for pulling down many houses about Whitehall, some whereof were newly built and hardly finished, and sent many of his choice goods by water to Hampton Court ; as most of the persons of quality in the Strand, who had the benefit of the river, got barges and other vessels, and sent their furniture for their houses to some houses some miles out of the town. And very many on both sides the Strand, who knew not whither to go, and scarce what they did, fled with their families out of their houses into the streets, that they might not be within when the fire fell upon their houses.

“ But it pleased God, contrary to all expectation, that on Wednesday, about four or five of the clock in the afternoon, the wind fell : and as in an instant the fire decreased, having burnt all on the Thames side of the new buildings of the Inner Temple next to White Friars, and having consumed them, was stopped by that vacancy from proceeding farther into that house ; but laid hold on some old buildings that joined to Ram Alley, and swept all those into Fleet Street. And the other side being likewise destroyed to Fetter Lane, it advanced no farther ; but left the other part of Fleet Street to the Temple Bar, and all the Strand, unhurt, but what damage the owners of the houses had done to themselves by endeavouring to remove ; and it ceased in all other parts of the town near the same time.

“ The greatest care then [when the fire had ceased in all parts] was, to keep good guards to watch the fire that was upon the ground, that it might not break out again. And this was the better performed, because they who had yet their houses standing had not the courage to sleep, but watched with much less distraction ; though the same distemper still remained in the utmost extent, ‘ that all this had fallen out by the conspiracy of the French and Dutch with the Papists ;’ and all gaols were filled with those who were every hour apprehended upon that jealousy ; or rather upon some evidence that they were guilty of the crime. And the people were so sottish, that they believed that all the French in the town (which no doubt were a very great number) were drawn into a body, to prosecute those by the sword who were preserved from the fire : and the inhabitants of a whole street have ran in a great tumult one way, upon the rumour that the French were marching at the other end of it ; so terrified men were with their own apprehensions.

“ When the night, though far from being a quiet one, had somewhat lessened the consternation, the first care the king took was, that the country might speedily supply markets in all places, that they who had saved themselves from burning might not be in danger of starving ; and if there had not
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been extraordinary care and diligence used, many would have perished that way. The vast destruction of corn, and all other sorts of provisions, in those parts where the fire had prevailed, had not only left all those people destitute of all that was to be eat or drank ; but the bakers and brewers which inhabited the other parts which were unhurt, had forsaken their houses, and carried away all that was portable : insomuch as many days passed, before they were enough in their wits and in their houses to fall to their occupations ; and those parts of the town which God had spared and preserved were many hours without any thing to eat, as well as they who were in the fields. And yet it can hardly be conceived, how great a supply of all kinds was brought from all places within four-and-twenty hours. And which was more miraculous, in four days, in all the fields about the town, which had seemed covered with those whose habitations were burned, and with the goods which they had saved, there was scarce a man to be seen : all found shelter in so short a time, either in those parts which remained of the city and in the suburbs, or in the neighbour villages ; all kind of people expressing a marvellous charity towards those who appeared to be undone. And very many, with more expedition than can be conceived, set up little sheds of brick and timber upon the ruins of their own houses, where they chose rather to inhabit than in more convenient places, though they knew they could not long reside in those new buildings.

“ The king was not more troubled at any particular, than at the imagination which possessed the hearts of so many, that all this mischief had fallen out by a real and formed conspiracy ; which, albeit he saw no colour to believe, he found very many intelligent men, and even some of his own council, who did really believe it. Whereupon he appointed the privy council to sit both morning and evening, to examine all evidence of that kind that should be brought before them, and to send for any persons who had been committed to prison upon some evidence that made the greatest noise ; and sent for the lord chief justice, who was in the country,

country, to come to the town for the better examination of all suggestions and allegations of that kind, there having been some malicious report scattered about the town, 'that the court had so great a prejudice against any kind of testimony of such a conspiracy, that they discountenanced all witnesses who came before them to testify what they knew;' which was without any colour of truth. Yet many, who were produced as if their testimony would remove all doubts, made such senseless relations of what they had been told, without knowing the condition of the persons who told them, or where to find them; that it was a hard matter to forbear smiling at their evidence. Some Frenchmen's houses had been searched, in which had been found many of those shells for squibs and other fire-works, frequently used in nights of joy and triumph; and the men were well known, and had lived many years there by that trade, and had no other: and one of these was the king's servant, and employed by the office of ordnance for making grenades of all kinds, as well for the hand as for mortar-pieces. Yet these men were looked upon as in the number of the conspirators, and remained still in prison till their neighbours solicited for their liberty. And it cannot be enough wondered at, that in this general rage of the people no mischief was done to the strangers, that no one of them was assassinated outright, though many were sorely beaten and bruised.

" There was a very odd accident that confirmed many in what they were inclined to believe, and startled others, who thought the conspiracy impossible, since no combination not very discernible and discovered could have effected that mischief, in which the immediate hand of God was so visible. Amongst many Frenchmen who had been sent to Newgate, there was one Hubert, a young man of five or six-and-twenty years of age, the son of a famous watch-maker in the city of Roan; and this fellow had wrought in the same profession with several men in London, and had for many years both in Roan and in London been looked upon as distracted. This man confessed, 'that he had set the first house on fire, and that he had been hired in Paris a year before

before to do it : that there were three more combined with him to do the same thing, and that they came over together into England to put it in execution in the time of the plague ; but when they were in London, he and two of his companions went into Sweden, and returned from thence in the latter end of August, and he resolved to undertake it ; and that the two others went away into France.'

“ The whole examination was so senseless, that the chief justice, who was not looked upon as a man who wanted rigour, did not believe any thing he said. He was asked, ‘ who it was in Paris that suborned him to this action :’ to which he answered, ‘ that he did not know, having never seen him before ;’ and in enlarging upon that point, he contradicted himself in many particulars. Being asked, ‘ what money he had received to perform a service of so much hazard,’ he said, ‘ he had received but a pistole, but was promised five pistoles more when he should have done his work ;’ and many such unreasonable things, that nobody present credited any thing he said. However, they durst not slight the evidence, but put him to a particular, in which he so fully confirmed all that he had said before, that they were surprized with wonder, and knew not afterwards what to say or think. They asked him, ‘ if he knew the place where he first put fire ;’ he answered, ‘ that he knew it very well, and would shew it to any body.’ Upon this the chief justice, and many aldermen who sate with him, sent a guard of substantial citizenis with the prisoner, that he might shew them the house ; and they first led him to a place at some distance from it, and asked him, ‘ if that were it ;’ to which he answered presently, ‘ no, it was lower, nearer to the Thames.’ The house and all which were near it, were so covered and buried in ruins, that the owners themselves, without some infallible mark, could very hardly have said where their own houses had stood : but this man led them directly to the place, described how it stood, the shape of the little yard, the fashion of the door and windows, and where he first put the fire ; and all this with such exactness, that they who had dwelt long near it could not so perfectly have described all particulars.

“ This

“ This silenced all further doubts. And though the chief justice told the king, ‘ that all his discourse was so disjointed that he did not believe him guilty ;’ nor was there one man who prosecuted or accused him : yet upon his own confession, and so sensible a relation of all that he had done, accompanied with so many circumstances (though without the least shew of compunction or sorrow for what he said he had done, nor yet seeming to justify or take delight in it ; but being asked whether he was not sorry for the wickedness, and whether he intended to do so much, he gave no answer at all, or made reply to what was said ; and with the same temper died,) the jury found him guilty, and he was executed accordingly. And though no man could imagine any reason why a man should so desperately throw away his life, which he might have saved, though he had been guilty, since he was only accused upon his own confession ; yet neither the judges nor any present at the trial did believe him guilty, but that he was a poor distracted wretch weary of his life, and chose to part with it this way. Certain it is, that upon the strictest examination that could be afterwards made by the king’s command, and then by the diligence of parliament, that upon the jealousy and rumour made a committee, who were very diligent and solicitous to make that discovery, there was never any probable evidence (that poor creature’s only excepted) that there was any other cause of that woeful fire, than the displeasure of God Almighty : the first accident of the beginning in a baker’s house, where there was so great a stock of faggots, and the neighbourhood of much combustible matter, of pitch and rosin and the like, led it in an instant from house to house through Thames Street, with the agitation of so terrible a wind to scatter and disperse it.

“ Let the cause be what it would, the effect was very terrible ; for above two parts of three of that great city were burnt to ashes, and those the most rich and wealthy parts of the city, where the greatest warehouses and best shops stood. The Royal Exchange with all the streets about it, Lombard Street, Cheapside, Pater-noster Row, St. Paul’s Church, and almost all the other churches in the city, with
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the Old Bailey, Ludgate, all Paul's Church Yard, even to the Thames, and the greatest part of Fleet Street, all which were places the best inhabited, were all burned without one house remaining.

“ The value or estimate of what that devouring fire consumed, over and above the houses, could never be computed in any degree: for besides that the first night (which in a moment swept away the vast wealth of Thames Street) there was not any thing that could be preserved in respect of the suddenness and amazement, (all people being in their beds till the fire was in their houses, and so could save nothing but themselves); the next day with the violence of the wind the distraction increased; nor did many believe that the fire was near them, or that they had reason to remove their goods, till it was upon them and rendered it impossible. Then it fell out at a season in the year, the beginning of September, when very many of the substantial citizens and other wealthy men were in the country, whereof many had not left a servant in their houses, thinking themselves upon all ordinary accidents more secure in the goodness and kindness of their neighbours, than they could be in the fidelity of a servant; and whatsoever was in such houses was entirely consumed by the fire, or lost as to the owners. And of this classis of absent men, when the fire came where the lawyers had houses, as they had in many places, especially Serjeants Inn, in Fleet Street, with that part of the Inner Temple that was next it and White Friars, there was scarce a man to whom those lodgings appertained who was in town: so that whatsoever was there, their money, books and papers, besides the evidences of many mens estates deposited in their hands, were all burned or lost, to a very great value. But of particular mens losses could never be made any computation.

“ It was an incredible damage that was and might rationally be computed to be sustained by one small company, the company of Stationers, in books, paper, and the other lesser commodities which are vendible in that corporation,

which amounted to no less than two hundred thousand pounds: in which prodigious loss there was one circumstance very lamentable. All those who dwelt near Paul's, carried their goods, books, paper, and the like, as others of greater trades did their commodities, into the large vaults which were under St. Paul's Church, before the fire came thither: which vaults, though all the church above the ground was afterwards burned, with all the houses round about, still stood firm and supported the foundation, and preserved all that was within them; until the impatience of those who had lost their houses, and whatsoever they had else, in the fire, made them very desirous to see what they had saved, upon which all their hopes were founded to repair the rest.

“ It was the fourth day after the fire ceased to flame, though it still burned in the ruins, from whence there was still an intolerable heat, when the booksellers especially, and some other tradesmen, who had deposited all they had preserved in the greatest and most spacious vault, came to behold all their wealth, which to that moment was safe: but the doors were no sooner opened, and the air from without fanned the strong heat within, but first the driest and most combustible matters broke into a flame, which consumed all, of what kind soever, that till then had been unhurt there. Yet they who had committed their goods to some lesser vaults, at a distance from the greater, had better fortune; and having learned from the second ruin of their friends to have more patience, attended till the rain fell, and extinguished the fire in all places, and cooled the air: and then they securely opened the doors, and received from thence what they had there.

“ If so vast a damage as two hundred thousand pounds befel that little company of Stationers, in books and paper, and the like, what shall we conceive we lost in cloth (of which the country clothiers lost all that they had brought up to Blackwell Hall, against Michaelmass, which was all burned with that fair structure) in silks of all kinds, in linen, and those richer manufactures? Not to speak of money, plate,
and

and jewels, whereof some were recovered out of the ruins of those houses which the owners took care to watch, as containing somewhat that was worth the looking for, and in which deluge there were men ready enough to fish.

“ The lord mayor, though a very honest man, was much blamed for want of sagacity in the first night of the fire, before the wind gave it much advancement: for though he came with great diligence as soon as he had notice of it, and was present with the first, yet having never been used to such spectacles, his consternation was equal to that of other men, nor did he know how to apply his authority to the remedying the present distress; and when men who were less terrified with the object, pressed him very earnestly, ‘ that he would give order for the present pulling down those houses which were nearest, and by which the fire climbed to go farther,’ (the doing whereof at that time might probably have prevented much of the mischief that succeeded,) he thought it not safe counsel, and made no other answer, ‘ than that he durst not do it without the consent of the owners.’ His want of skill was the less wondered at, when it was known afterwards, that some gentlemen of the Inner Temple, would not endeavour to preserve the goods which were in the lodgings of absent persons, nor suffer others to do it, ‘ because,’ they said, ‘ it was against the law to break up any man’s chamber!’

“ The sudden repair of those formidable ruins, and the giving so great beauty to all deformity (a beauty and a lustre the city had never before been acquainted with) is little less wonderful than the fire that consumed it.”

During the progress of this dreadful conflagration, orders were given for pulling down various houses in the Tower of London, in order to preserve the grand magazine of gunpowder in that fortress; to the preservation of which, the violent easterly wind contributed more than the precaution.

Many thousands of citizens, who by this calamity were deprived of their habitations, were reduced to the utmost distress, and were exposed to the inclemency of the weather,

till a sufficient number of huts could be erected for their relief; but in order to mitigate the misery of the sufferers, his majesty ordered a great quantity of naval bread to be distributed among them; and issued a proclamation, commanding the magistrates of the city to encourage the bringing of all kinds of provisions.

By the certificate of Jonas Moore and Ralph Gatrix, the surveyors appointed to examine the ruins, it appeared that this dreadful fire over-ran three hundred and seventy-three acres of ground within the walls, and burnt thirteen thousand two hundred houses, eighty-nine parish churches, besides chapels; and that only eleven parishes within the walls were left standing.

The conflagration was extended by various concurrent circumstances. The buildings, as already noticed, were of a combustible nature. The fire broke out on a Saturday night, when many of the principal citizens were retired to their country houses and lodgings, and only their servants left at home; consequently many hands were wanting that might otherwise have been useful in extinguishing the flames. The heat of the summer had so dried the timber, that when it once caught fire, it was the less easy to be repelled; and a strong easterly wind blew the whole time. The water-works at London Bridge were entirely burnt, so that no relief could be had from thence, and the New River unexpectedly failed. Besides this, there was a general negligence at first in the most effectual means for quenching the fire, from a confidence the people entertained of its stopping at different openings; which at length turned to general confusion, and people endeavoured rather to save their goods by flight, than to preserve their own and their neighbours houses. To these causes, and to these only, can the surprizing progress of the fire be naturally attributed.

While the city lay in ruins, several temporary conveniences were formed for the benefit of the public in general. Tabernacles were erected in various places for the exercise of divine worship. Gresham College was converted into an Exchange for the merchants; in the apartments

ments of which the public business of the city was transacted, instead of Guildhall: and the Royal Society being thus excluded from Gresham College, were accommodated with apartments in Arundel House. The Excise Office was kept in Southampton Fields, near Bedford House; the General Post Office was removed to Bridges Street, Covent Garden; the affairs of the Custom House were transacted in Mark Lane; the king's wardrobe was removed from Puddle Wharf to York Buildings; and the offices belonging to Doctors Commons were held in Exeter House in the Strand.

The temporary distress which the fire had occasioned was ameliorated by the attention which government, and all ranks of people, shewed towards the relief and comfort of the citizens.

When the consternation which such an accident must necessarily have occasioned, was in some degree abated, his majesty issued the following proclamation for prohibiting the rebuilding of houses till proper regulations were made for re-edifying the city with such propriety, uniformity and security, as might effectually prevent the like destruction for the future.

This proclamation, after reciting the circumstances of the fire, as a punishment from heaven, &c. proceeds to lay down some general rules for constructing a new and more beautiful city; some of which would be of essential use among the improvements of the present period.

“ In the first place the woeful experience in this late heavy visitation hath sufficiently convinced all men of the pernicious consequences which have attended the building with timber, and even with stone itself, and the notable benefit of brick, which in so many places hath resisted, and even extinguished the fire; and we do therefore hereby declare our express will and pleasure that no man whatsoever shall presume to erect any house or building, great or small, but of brick or stone; and if any man shall do the contrary, the next magistrate shall forthwith cause it to be pulled down, and such further course shall be taken for his punishment

punishment as he deserves ; and we suppose that the notable benefit many men have rendered from those cellars which have been well and strongly arched, will persuade most men who built good houses to practice that good husbandry by arching all convenient places.

“ We do declare that Fleet Street, Cheapside, Cornhill, and all other eminent and notorious streets, shall be of such a breadth, as may with God’s blessing prevent the mischief that one side may suffer if the other be on fire, which was the case lately in Cheapside : the precise breadth of which several streets shall be, upon advice with the lord mayor and aldermen, shortly published, with many other particular orders and rules which cannot yet be adjusted : in the mean time we resolve, though all the streets cannot be of equal breadth, yet none shall be so narrow as to make the passage uneasy or inconvenient, especially towards the water-side : nor will we suffer any lanes or alleys to be erected but where, upon mature deliberation, the same shall be found absolutely necessary ; except such places shall be set aside which shall be designed only for building of that kind, and from whence no public mischief may probably arise.

“ The irreparable damage and loss by the late fire, being next to the hand of God in the terrible wind, to be imputed to the place in which it first broke out, amongst small timber houses, standing so close together, that as no remedy could be applied from the river for the quenching thereof, to the contiguousness of the buildings, hindering and keeping all possible relief from the land side ; we do resolve and declare, that there shall be a fair key or wharf on all the river side ; that no house shall be erected within so many feet of the river, as shall be within a few days declared in the rules formerly mentioned ; nor shall there be in those buildings, which shall be erected next the river, which we desire may be fair structures for the ornament of the city, any houses to be inhabited by the brewers or dyers, or sugar bakers, which trades, by their continual smoak, contribute much to the unhealthfulness of the adjacent

jacent places; but we require the lord mayor and aldermen of London, upon a full consideration, and weighing all conveniences and inconveniences that can be forthseen, to propose such a place as may be fit for all those trades, which are carried on by smoak, to inhabit together; or at least several places for the several quarters of the town for those occupations, and in which they shall find their account in convenience and profit, as well as other places shall receive the benefit in the distance of the neighbourhood; it being our purpose that they who exercise those necessary professions shall be in all respects as well provided for and encouraged as ever they have been, and undergo as little prejudice as may be by being less inconvenient to their neighbours.

“ The grounds and foundations being laid, from the substance whereof we shall not depart, and which being published are sufficient advertisements to prevent any man's running into, or bringing any inconvenience upon himself, by a precipitate engagement in any act which may cross these foundations, we have, in order to the reducing this great and gracious design into practice, directed, and we do hereby direct, that the lord mayor and court of aldermen do with all possible expedition cause an exact survey to be made and taken of the whole ruins occasioned by the late lamentable fire; to the end that it may appear to whom all the houses and ground did in truth belong, what terms the several occupiers are possessed of, and at what rents, and to whom either corporations, companies, or single persons, the reversion and inheritance appertained; that some provision may be made, that though every man must not be suffered to erect what buildings and where he pleases, he shall not in any degree be debarred from receiving the reasonable benefit of what ought to accrue to him from such houses or lands; there being nothing less in our thoughts than that any particular person's right and interest should be sacrificed to the public benefit or convenience, without any such recompence, as in justice he ought to receive for the same. And when all things of this kind shall be prepared
and

and adjusted by such commissioners, and otherwise which shall be found expedient, we make no doubt that such an act of parliament will pass as shall secure all men in what they shall and ought to possess.

“ By the time that this survey shall be taken, we shall cause a plot or model to be made for the whole building through those ruined places ; which being well examined by all those persons who have most concernment as well as experience, we make no question but all men will be pleased with it, and very willingly conform to these orders and rules, which shall be agreed for the pursuing thereof.

“ In the mean time we do heartily recommend it to the charity and magnanimity of all well disposed persons, and we do heartily pray unto Almighty God that he will infuse it into the hearts of men speedily to endeavour, by degrees, to re-edify some of those many churches which in this lamentable fire have been burnt down and defaced, that so men may have those public places of God's worship to resort to, to humble themselves together before him upon this heavy displeasure, and join in their devotion for his future mercy and blessing upon us ; and as soon as we shall be informed of any readiness to begin such a good work, we shall not only give our assistance and direction for the model of it, and freeing it from buildings at too near a distance, but shall encourage it by our own bounty, and all other ways we shall be desired.

“ Lastly, that we may encourage men by our example, we will use all the expedition we can to rebuild our Custom House in the place where it formerly stood, and enlarge it with the most conveniences for the merchants that can be devised ; and upon all other lands which belong unto us, we shall depart with any thing of our own right and benefit for the advancement of the public service and beauty of the city ; and shall further remit to all those who shall erect any building according to this declaration, all duties arising to us upon the Hearth Money for the space of seven years.

“ Given at our court at Whitehall, the 13th day of September 1666, in the eighteenth year of our reign.”

Accordant

Accordant with the munificent endeavours used by the king, for renovating the city, the parliament was convened with all possible dispatch, and on the 18th of this month passed an act for erecting a court of judicature, by which was to be determined all differences between landlords and tenants respecting houses and buildings demolished by the late fire, and the justices of the courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas, and the barons of the Exchequer, were appointed to be of the said court. The integrity and impartiality with which the judges conducted themselves, induced the citizens, in token of their gratitude, to cause the portraits of those virtuous men, to be hung up in Guildhall, as monuments of their great merit; but the service has so long elapsed, that the benefactors are nearly forgotten, and the portraits are mouldering into rottenness. A sad reflection on those to whom their preservation should have been a primary object!

The decisions of the judges were followed by an act of parliament for rebuilding the city; in which proper directions were given "how the houses should be constructed, and for the regulation of builders; for granting the corporation powers to open and enlarge the streets and lanes; for appointing an annual fast on the day the fire broke out; for erecting a column of brass or stone on the spot where it began, with a proper inscription to perpetuate the memory of the disaster; and for imposing a duty of one shilling per chaldron or ton, on coals for ten years, towards defraying the necessary expences of carrying the said act into execution."

The common-council, on the 29th of April 1667, also passed an act, in which they allotted what streets should be enlarged and widened, and to what respective widths they should be opened; and agreeably to the act of parliament, the following order was immediately framed, and presented to his majesty, who so highly approved of it, that, on the 8th of May following, he confirmed and enforced it by an order of council:

“ It is ordered that the surveyors take special care, that the breast-summings of all the houses do range of an equal height, house with house, so far as shall be convenient, and there to make breaks by directions.

“ And that they do encourage and give directions to all builders, for ornament sake, that the ornaments and projections of the front buildings be of rubbed bricks; and that all the naked parts of the walls may be done of rough bricks, neatly wrought, or all rubbed, at the direction of the builder, or that the builders may otherwise enrich their fronts as they please.

“ That if any person or persons shall desire, in any street or lane of note, to build on each side of the street or lane, opposite one to the other, six or more houses of the third rate, or that the upper rooms or garrets may be flat roofs, encompassed with battlements of bricks covered with stone, or rails, and bannisters of iron or stone, or to vary their roofs for the greater ornament of building; the surveyors, or one of them, shall certify their opinions therein to the committee for rebuilding, who shall have liberty to give leave for the same, if they see cause.

“ That in all streets no sign-posts shall hang across, but signs shall be fixed against the balconies, or some other convenient part of the side of the house.

“ It is ordered, that a postern shall be made on the north side of Newgate, for conveniency of foot passengers; and that Holborn Bridge shall be enlarged to run strait on a bevel line from the timber house on the north side thereof, known by the sign of the Cock, to the front of the building at the Swan inn on the north side of Holborn Hill.

“ Forasmuch as it is provided in the late act for rebuilding, that the surveyors shall take care for the equal setting out of all party-walls and piers, and no person be permitted to build till that be done; therefore, for preservation of any exaction in the taking of such surveys, and of all quarrels and contentions that may arise between the builders, it is ordered, That no builder shall lay his foundation, until the surveyors,

surveyors, or one of them (according to the act) shall view it, and see the party-walls and piers equally set out; and that all persons observe the surveyors directions concerning the superstructure to be erected over the said foundation.

“ And that, for the defraying that and all other incident charges of measuring, staking out, taking the level, and surveying the streets and ground, each builder, before he lay his foundation, and such survey shall be taken, do repair to the chamber of London, and there enter his name, with the place where his building is to be set out, and to pay to the chamberlain the sum of six shillings and eight-pence for every foundation to be rebuilt. For which Mr. Chamberlain shall give acquittances; upon receipt of which acquittances the surveyors shall proceed to set out such persons foundations.

“ And it is ordered, that all persons who have already laid any foundations shall forthwith pay into the chamber of London, six shillings and eight-pence for every foundation.

“ And this court is consenting and desirous that all straight and narrow passages, which shall be found convenient for common benefit and accommodation, and shall receive his majesty's order and approbation, shall and may be enlarged and made wider, and otherwise altered, before the 20th of May now next ensuing, as shall be fitting for the beauty, ornament, and conveniency thereof, and staked and set out accordingly.

“ Several late inhabitants of Fleet Street, intending to rebuild their houses, which did formerly stand backward of other foundations near adjoining, and desiring liberty to advance their houses, that the whole front may run on a straight line; the committee did agree to the same, if the right honourable the lord high chancellor of England and the other lords shall approve thereof, and procure his majesty's approbation to the same: and the committee do desire liberty may be given for other persons in other places where it shall be found convenient.

H h 2

“ And

“ And it is ordered, that the committee for rebuilding do present the particulars aforesaid to the right honourable the lord high chancellor of England and the other lords, and that the same, if they receive his majesty's approbation, shall be forthwith printed and published.

“ Which being this day represented to the board by the right honourable the lord high chancellor of England, the same was allowed and approved of: and it was ordered that the same be punctually observed in every part thereof: And all persons concerned are required and commanded to yield due obedience, and conform themselves thereunto.”

And about the same time an act of common-council was passed for preventing and suppressing of fires for the future; in which, among other things, it was enacted,

“ 1. That the city be divided into four divisions, and each thereof be provided with eight hundred leathern buckets, fifty ladders of different sizes from twelve to forty-two feet in length, two brazen hand-squirts to each parish, twenty-four pickax sledges, and forty shod shovels.

“ 2. That each of the twelve companies provide themselves with an engine, thirty buckets, three ladders, six pickax sledges, and two hand-squirts, to be ready upon all occasions. And the inferior companies, such a number of small engines and buckets, as should be allotted them by the lord mayor and court of aldermen, according to their respective abilities.

“ 3. That the aldermen, passed the office of sheriffalty, do provide their several houses with twenty-four buckets, and one hand-squirt each; and those who have not served that office, twelve buckets and one hand-squirt.

“ 4. And, for the effectual supplying the engines and squirts with water, that pumps be placed in all wells; and fire-plugs in the several main pipes belonging to the New River and Thames water-works.

“ 5. That the several companies of Carpenters, Bricklayers, Plaisterers, Painters, Masons, Smiths, Plumbers, and Paviours, do annually, for each corporation, elect two
master





*A Plan of the City of London, after the Great Fire
 Situation of the Great Streets, St. Pauls Cathed*

master workmen, four journeymen, eight apprentices, and sixteen labourers, to be ready, upon all occasions of fire, to attend the lord mayor and sheriffs for extinguishing the same.

“ 6. That all the workmen and labourers belonging to the several water-works within the city, sea coal meters, Blackwell Hall, Leadenhall, ticket, package, and other porters, do constantly attend the lord mayor and sheriffs in all such services.”

The citizens of London laboured but a short time under the inconveniences arising from their late calamity ; for, by prudent vigilance, it was, to the astonishment of all Europe, rebuilt in the short space of four years, in so different a manner from its original state, that those who beheld it before and after the fire, were no less astonished at the wealth of the citizens who could sustain so considerable a loss, than at the expedition and expence that was laid out in its restoration.

A favourable opportunity also offered, by which the city of London might have been rebuilt so, as to have exceeded in beauty every other city in the universe ; had the following plans met with that countenance the ingenuity of the projectors merited.

The first of these plans was formed by Dr. (afterwards Sir) Christopher Wren, who had been appointed surveyor general and principal architect for rebuilding the whole city ; the cathedral church of St. Paul ; all the parochial churches (in number fifty-one, enacted by parliament, in lieu of those that were burnt and demolished) with other public structures ; and for the disposition of the streets. A charge so great and extensive, incumbent on a single person, disposed him to take to his assistance Mr. Robert Hook *, professor

* Robert Hook, a native of Freshwater, in the Isle of Wight, was educated under Dr. Busby, in Westminster school, whence he removed to Christchurch College, Oxford. He was one of the most eminent geometers of his time, having perfected the air-pump for Mr. Boyle, improved the pendulum for finding the longitude, and contrived the

professor of geometry in Gresham College, to whom he assigned chiefly the business of measuring, adjusting, and setting out the ground of the private streets to the several proprietors; reserving all the public works to his own peculiar care and direction.

Immediately after the fire he took a survey of the ruined spot, by the king's order, and designed a plan for a new city. In this plan all the deformities and inconveniences of the old capital were to be remedied, by enlarging the streets and lanes, and rendering them as nearly parallel to each other as possible; by seating all the parish churches in a conspicuous and regular manner; by forming the most public places into large piazzas, the centers of eight ways; by uniting the halls of the twelve companies into one regular square annexed to Guildhall; and by making a commodious quay on the whole bank of the river, from Blackfriars to the Tower.

The streets were to be of three magnitudes; the three principal ones to run straight through the city, and one or two cross streets to be at least ninety feet wide; others sixty and the lanes about thirty feet, excluding all narrow dark alleys, thoroughfares, and courts.

The Exchange to stand free in the middle of a piazza, and to be in the center of the town, whence the streets should proceed to all the principal parts of the city; and the building to be formed like a Roman forum, with double porticos.

Many streets were also to radiate upon the bridge. Those of the two first magnitudes to be carried on as straight as possible, and to center in four or five areas surrounded with piazzas.

the circular pendulum, besides his many discoveries in the muscular system; and was the author of numerous mechanical and philosophical discoveries, honourable to himself and to his country, particularly the ingenious construction of watches. Upon his appointment of assistant to Dr. Wren, his co-operation with that great renovator of the city, was essential and highly useful. And by the joint efforts of these great men London assumed its present improved appearance, though not that elegance and convenience which their wishes suggested.

The

The Key or open wharf on the bank of the Thames, to be spacious and convenient, without any interruptions, with some large docks for barges deep laden.

The canal to be cut up at Bridewell, one hundred and twenty feet wide, with sasses at Holborn Bridge, and at the mouth, to cleanse it from all filth, with stowage for coals on each side.

The churches were to be designed according to the best forms for capacity and hearing; and those of the larger parishes adorned with porticos and lofty ornamental towers and steeples; but all church-yards, gardens, and unnecessary vacuities, and all trades that use great fires, or produce noisome smells, were to be placed out of the town.

This excellent plan which Sir Christopher laid before the king, (*a copy of which we have preserved in this work*) is thus explained:

From that part of Fleet Street which escaped the fire, a straight street of ninety feet wide was to extend, and, passing by the south side of Ludgate, was to end gracefully in a piazza on Tower Hill.

In the middle of Fleet Street was to be a circular area surrounded with a piazza, the center of eight ways, where, at one station, were to meet the following streets. The first, straight forward, quite through the city: the second, obliquely towards the right hand, to the beginning of the quay that was to run from Bridewell Dock to the Tower: the third, obliquely on the left, to Smithfield: the fourth, straight forward on the right, to the Thames: the fifth, straight on the left, to Hatton Garden and Clerkenwell: the sixth, straight backwards to Temple Bar: the seventh, obliquely on the right, to the walks of the Temple: and the eighth, obliquely on the left to Cursitor's Alley.

On passing down Fleet Street, and Ludgate Hill, Ludgate prison was to stand on the left side of the street, where a triumphal arch was to be formed, instead of the gate, in honour of king Charles II. the founder of the new city; and the cathedral of St. Paul was to be situated where it now stands, surrounded by a triangular piazza.

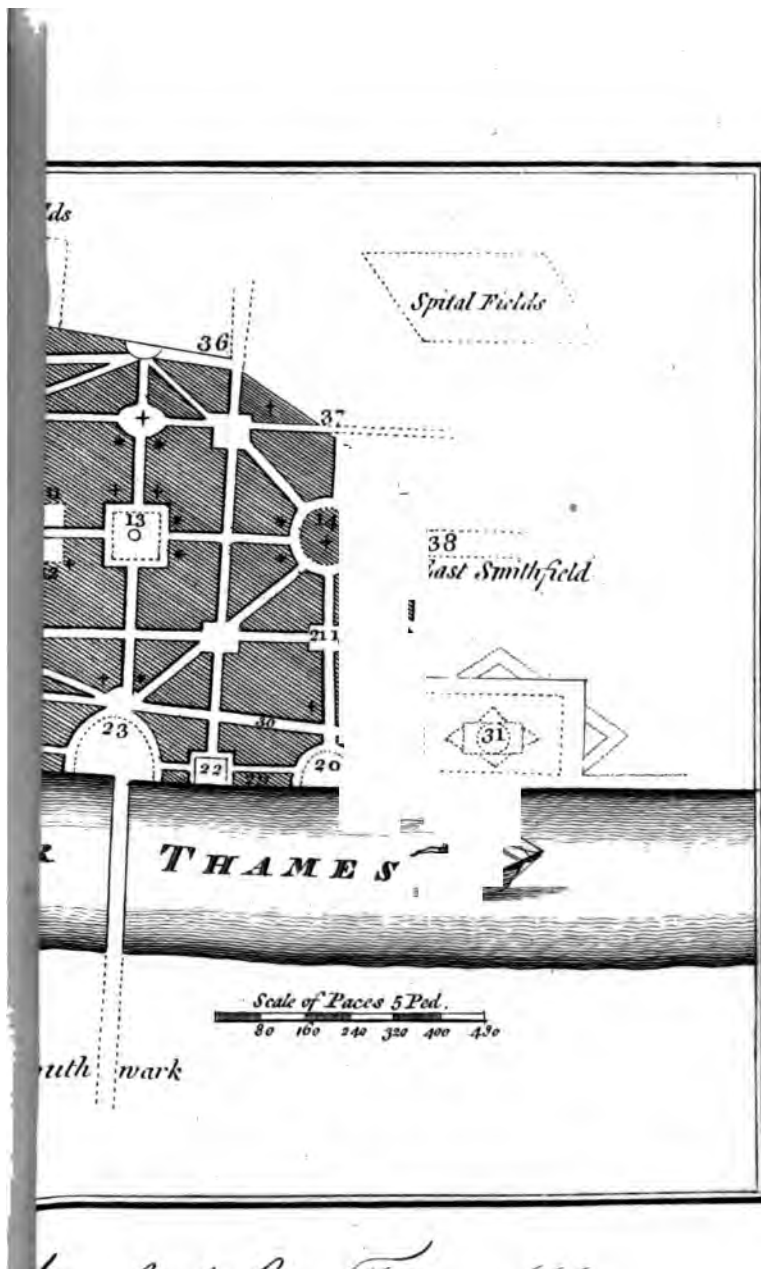
Leaving

Leaving St. Paul's on the left, a straight street was to extend directly to the Tower, adorned all the way, at proper distances, with parish churches; and leaving that edifice to the right, the other great branches were to lead to the Royal Exchange, which was to be seated in the middle of a piazza, between two great streets, the one from Ludgate leading to the south front, and another from Holborn, through Newgate, and thence straight to the north front.

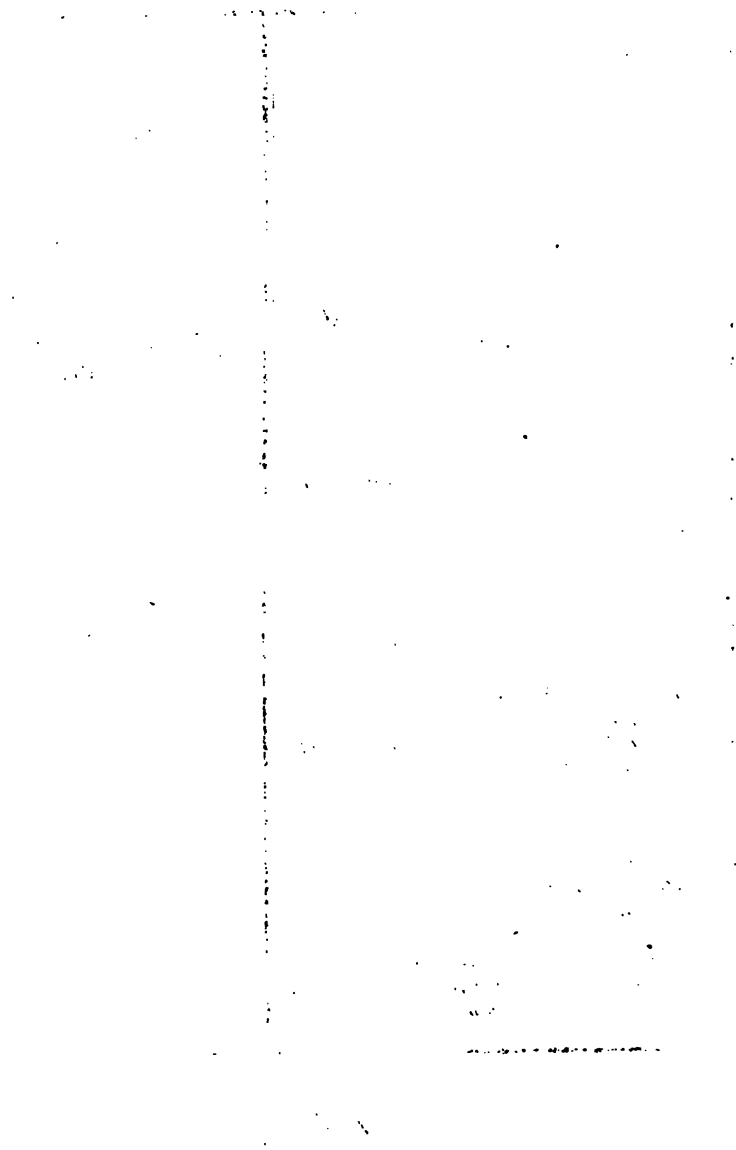
This excellent scheme was demonstrated to be practicable, without the least infringement on any person's property; for, by leaving out the church-yards, &c. which were to be removed at a distance from the town, there would have been sufficient room both for the augmentation of the streets, the disposition of the churches, halls, and all public buildings, and to have given every proprietor full satisfaction: for though few of them would have been seated exactly upon the very same ground they possessed before the fire, yet none would have been thrown at any considerable distance from it; but the obstinacy of great part of the citizens, in refusing to recede from the right of rebuilding their houses on the old foundations, was an insurmountable obstacle to the execution of this noble scheme, which would certainly have rendered the city of London one of the most magnificent in the universe.

The other scheme was projected by Sir John Evelyn, (*the plan whereof is here also annexed, and for which reason we shall be somewhat particular in explaining it.*) In this plan Sir John proposed that some of the deepest vallies should be filled up, or at least made with less sudden declivities. That a new and spacious quay should run from the Tower to the Temple, and extend itself as far as lower water mark; by which means the channel of the river would be kept constantly full; and the irregularity and deformity of the stairs, and the dirt and filth left at every ebb, would also be prevented.

He also proposed, in order to create variety in the streets, that there should be breaks and enlargements, by spacious openings at proper distances, surrounded with piazzas, and uniformly



on after the Great Fire in 1666.



uniformly built with beautiful fronts; and that some of these openings should be square, some circular, and others oval. The principal streets were to be an hundred feet in breadth, and the narrowest not less than thirty. Three or four large streets were to be formed between the Thames and London Wall, reckoning that of Cheapside for the chief, which might be entered from Temple Bar to the upper part of Tower Hill, or to Crutched Friars, bearing the cathedral of St. Paul's upon a noble eminence.

Amidst these streets were to stand the parochial churches, so interspersed as to adorn the profile of the city at all its avenues. Most of them were to be in the center of spacious areas, adorned with piazzas, &c. so as to be seen from several streets, and others were to be at the abutments and extremities.

Round the piazzas of the churches the stationers and booksellers were to have their shops, and the ministers their houses. Round St. Paul's was to be the episcopal palace, the dean and prebends houses, St. Paul's school, a public library, the Prerogative and First Fruits Office; all which were to be built at an ample distance from the cathedral, and with very stately fronts, in honour of that venerable pile. In some of these openings, surrounded with piazzas, were to be the several markets, and in others public fountains constantly playing.

The College of Physicians was to be situated in a principal part of the town, encircled with a handsome piazza, for the dwellings of those learned persons, with the surgeons, apothecaries, and druggists in the streets about them; for he would have all of a mystery in the same quarters. Those of the better sort of the shopkeepers were to be in the most eminent streets and piazzas; and the artificers in the more ordinary houses, in the intermediate and narrow passages. The taverns and victualling houses were to be placed amongst them, but so constructed as to preserve the most perfect uniformity.

The halls for the city companies were to be placed between the piazzas, market-places and churches, and to be
Vor. I. No. 11. I i fronted

fronted with stone; among these was to be Guildhall, distinguished from the rest by its being more pompous and magnificent, and adjoining to this edifice was to be a magnificent house for the lord mayor, and two others for the sheriffs.

The Royal Exchange to front the Thames about the Steel Yard, in an area surrounded on three sides with piazzas, with vaults for warehouses beneath: and for such merchandize as could not be here preserved, might be erected buildings fronting the Thames on the other side the river, with wharfs before and yards behind for the placing of cranes, the laying of timber, coals, &c. and other gross commodities, while the quay over-against it should be built for the owners, and the dwellings of the principal merchants; but if the warehouses must be on this side, they were to front Thames Street rather than the river, because of the dull and heavy appearance of those buildings.

The little bay at Queenhithe was to have the quay continued round it, and cloistered about for market people and fruiterers; and where the wharf then was, a stately avenue was to extend to St. Paul's cathedral.

Four great streets were to extend along the city: the first, from Fleet Ditch to the Tower: the second, from the Strand to the most eastern part of the city, where was to be a noble triumphal arch, in honour of the king: the third, from Newgate to Aldgate: and the fourth and shortest, from Aldersgate to Bishopsgate. He also proposed that five principal cross streets should extend from Blackfriars into West Smithfield; from the Thames east of St. Paul's to Aldersgate; from Queenhithe to Cripplegate; and from the Royal Exchange to Moorgate. That the street from the bridge should extend to Bishopsgate, and another from the Custom House to Aldgate.

Instead of houses on the bridge, he proposed to have it adorned with a substantial iron balustrade, ornamented, at convenient distances, with statues on their pedestals, and a footway on each side for the convenience of passengers.

The

The hospitals, workhouses and prisons were to be situated in convenient quarters of the city. The hospitals to form one of the principal streets; but the prisons, and court for the trial of criminals, to be built near the entrance of the city.

The gates of the city were to be in the form of triumphal arches, adorned with statues, relievos, and apposite inscriptions, not obstructed by sheds, or mean houses joined to them.

Sir John also proposed, that along the wall between Cripplegate and Aldgate, should be the church-yards of the several parishes, while the houses opposite to them formed a large street for the common inns, and served also as stations for carriers, &c. These being on the north part of the city, and nearest the confines of the fields and roads, would least encumber the town; and there would be a far more commodious and free access to them, by reason of their immediate approaches through the traverse streets, than if they were scattered up and down without distinction.

A third, and very excellent plan for rebuilding the city was suggested by the ingenious Dr. Newcourt, father of Richard Newcourt, the learned author of the Repertorium; or Ecclesiastical History of the Diocese of London.

By the indulgence of Richard Bull, Esq. to whom the editors of this work are under infinite obligations, they give the whole from the original MS. in his possession, which is intitled, "NEW AND OLD LONDON:"—

"In designinge a platfforme for the new building of the city of London (lately consumed by ffire) I should offer myne opinion for the modellinge of it in this manner.

"First. Whereas in regard of the wonderfull population of the place, and close croudunge of the streets and howses one on the neck of another, soe that there was scarce breathinge for the inhabitants; there must of necessity (to make the city wholesome and comodious, and to retayne the inhabitants within the same) be a greate expatiation and inlargement both of the streets and city; which by the modell thereof (herewith set forth) may more playnly appeare;

I I 2

which

which modell I have drawne by the same scale, by which I drew the mapp of the old city, which is a scale of yards of three foote to the yard.

“ And the better to discover the new erection, how and over what parts of the old city the new streets and buildings are to passe, I have in one map delineated by black pricks the walls and gates, and by lines and figures the very streets, lanes, and churches of the former city, as they stood before they were burnt ; and by redd lines the scope both of the length and latitude of the new.

“ Therefore ye shall understand, I have runn the wall or lyne of a new city, from about some thirtie yards on the east side of Bridewell Dock, directly north to the upper end of St. John’s Streete, and somewhat farther into the fields, being in length about a measured mile ; from thence, I have drawn the wall or line directly east, which passeth near the Windmills in Finsbury Fields ; and thence onward, cutting Shoreditch Street by north, St. Mary’s Spital, and so on eastward ; so that this whole north line contains about the space of near a mile in length, which is to answer the length of the Old City from Bridewell Dock to the Postern Gate above the Tower ; from which Postern Gate I have drawn a straight line or wall of about three quarters of a mile or more, which meets with the north line, and cast the city, into a handsome oblong square, as by the model thereof appears.

“ For the framing of the streets, I have drawn two several maps ; one of which may haply sort more commodiously and convenient for the city than the other.

“ In the first (to begin upon the river) I would wish there might be one straight goodly row of noble buildings, which should face the river ; the front of which row facing the river, should be built upon arches, in the same manner as is the piatzo in Covent Garden ; and this row to extend from the very corner of the city at Bridewell Dock, in a continued direct line, unto the Tower Wharf ; which row of buildings should not be intersected by any street which is to come down to the wharfs or water’s side ; but the streets should issue out through the arches.

Next,

“ Next, before this row of buildings, there should extend a fair wharf of sixty yards broad to the water's side, which wharf should no ways at all, be pestered with any buildings or other impediments to obscure the beauty of the arched work, but only with cranes for craning up of goods at convenient hithes and landings, made at fitting places for that purpose, which I conceive to be best made against the end of the streets or some of them.

“ Thirdly, as to the body of the city itself; in the first map, I have drawn seven straight streets, from the west to the east, composed of an equal distance one from the other, which seven streets, I have crossed with seven other streets leading from north to south, cutting the eastern seven at rectangles, each street consisting of eighty foot broad, which divides the whole body of the city into sixty-four equal portions; out of which I have set apart nine parcels, (one only to Tower Hill, as not meddling with the greater part of that,) the other eight I have set apart for the uses hereafter expressed.

“ As for the other portions being fifty-five in number, I have allotted them into so many parishes; and for the more methodical ordering of them, for the easiest advantage of the parishioners, I have seated the church in the very centre or the middle point of that parish; allowing to such church one hundred and twenty or one hundred and thirty foot in length, for the tower, church and chancel, and about fifty or sixty foot in breadth; and the church-yard environing the same, double the proportion both in breadth and length, viz. about two hundred and sixty foot in length, and about one hundred and thirty or one hundred and forty foot in breadth, which I suppose may serve for a sufficient reception of the dead in each parish.

“ I have likewise proportioned four several handsome streets or lanes, to lead from each quarter of the main street into the church; each of which lanes may contain about twenty or twenty-four foot in width, which lead into a lane of like breadth, which incloseth the whole church-yard. By which lane, the sullage of the houses, any wares or commodities
may

may easily be brought in or carried forth : likewise the lanes and backways may be safely kept under gates and bars, and this by the map, and the explanation thereof, may easily be understood.

“ As to the buildings towards each main street, I would wish they might all be of upright work, of one and the same form, with payntheuses of about five or six foot broad, under which there may be an easy walk of about four foot over, of smooth hewn stone, for the easier passing to and again of the people, specially of such as are old or diseased in their feet ; over which payntheuses, the inhabitants may erect balconies, if they please.

“ Concerning the eight quarters or portions formerly spoken of, I have set them all apart for these uses following :

“ First, in general, as piatzos, for the lustre and glory of the city, all and each of them should be environed with buildings upon arches, as is the piatzo of Covent Garden.

“ Next as touching the great piatzo or square, which contains four portions or quarters, with their streets, and is in length from west to east about six hundred and seventy yards, and in breadth four hundred and sixty, as it is seated in the very heart of the city ; so should it be beautified with the most noble and most magnificent structures of all other.

“ As first, in the centre of the same, should be erected a most stately Guildhall, (it being removed but a little distance from the former Guildhall) with all the noble rooms, courts, and chambers belonging to the same : and then to be of that largeness, as may serve (upon any occasion) to feast the king's majesty, or any great potentate, prince, or peer, either foreign or native ; and also for his majesty, if at any time, he be so graciously pleased to call thither his parliament.

“ To this may be added, on the east side, a noble palace, (if the citizens so please) furnished likewise at the public charge, for the lord mayor to keep his mayoralty yearly therein. On the west side thither may be translated the Royal Exchange, being but a small distance from the former, with some other additions thereto also ; and on the north

north side thereof, the storehouses of the city, or any other eminent or public piles, all near together in a convenient form.

“ Then for the large space remaining in circuit about the same, there may be kept the constant daily market formerly kept in Cheapside. The whole body also of the militia of the city, or any part thereof, may be drawn thither at fitting times to be mustered, viewed and exercised, and many other omissions may there be performed: and if this square plot seem to lie too flat and low to carry off the water, it may be raised to any convenient height whatsoever, with part of the rubbish of the old city.

“ As for the other four piatzos; upon that on the south-west falls, of necessity, the great church of St. Paul's; and it so falls, as will no way hinder or obstruct the streets, so that may be set apart wholly for the church. In the vacant space thereof, may be kept a weekly market upon any convenient day, and a Poule's fair once a year, (by the king's gracious charter,) if the church thinks fit to obtain the same.

“ Upon the other three, there may also be kept three public markets, upon three other days of the week. And whereas, into the north-west piatzo, may be translated the great fair of St. Bartholomew's, heretofore kept in Smithfield; so unto the other two (by the like gracious charter of his majesty) may be obtained two other noble fairs, at two convenient seasons of the year; which fairs may be of great advantage and profit unto the city. And so these piatzos will not only be of general use and benefit in divers respects, but also will be the principal ornament and glory of the city, as partly may be seen by the piatzo in Covent Garden. They all being built on arches as the same is.

“ THE SECOND MAP.

“ Now doubting within myself, that these fifty-five parishes quartered out by the first Map, may prove too numerous for the inhabitants (which will be quickly discovered, when the account of them is taken, as I hear the city is upon it, as also the quantity of ground which each man's house stood upon,

upon, I have drawn one other map of the same extension and frame, save only, that whereas the first map hath seven streets, from west to east, this hath but five, which, however, retains the same piatzos with the former, only more large from north to south; and so (the piatzo of Tower Hill excepted) cast the city into thirty-nine parishes, augmenting each parish into a larger proportion by more than a fourth part, north and south, only the frame and form of the churches, with the small streets leading thereunto, shall stand in all respects like unto the former, but may be augmented in wideness, if the city please.

“ In the first plot of the circuit of the city, I have placed nine gates; and in this latter, only seven, viz. against every second street or gate.

“ Some of these gates may serve for prisons, as formerly; but neither against any gate or wall should there be any house built; but that the same should stand clear and free by at least forty or fifty foot within the walls; and the like without the walls and dike on the other side.

“ These gates, with a strong tower at the two corners of the walls, will be made defensible, as so many bastions or bulwarks one to the other.

“ Possibly this frame of the city, may be found too large for the inhabitants. Truly, I conceive it the better, if it so fall out; for the city in time will grow to the walls, and happily some of the suburbs may creep back again into the city, when they find convenience and reception there; and far better it were that the walls should inclose the city, than that the city should swell over the walls.

“ But yet, if the number of squares or portions in the map be found too numerous for the inhabitants, there are divers incorporated guilds or fraternities within the city of London, of which twelve are of the most honorable or principal fraternities, (out of which they say the lord mayor is always chosen); two of these may join together, and choose out one quarter, in which they may erect their halls, and all other houses belonging thereunto; and for the inner part of the square,

square, they may convert to brave walks and terraces, and grandeur of delight; and in the midst of each square, they may erect and raise a stately mount (surmounting the buildings of the city, which may be raised out of the rubbish of the burnt houses, and may save the charges of exportation thereof out of the town; all which will in a short time be manured and made fertile for the planting of trees, herbs and flowers, and converted into brave walks and ascents, where the companies may walk and recreate themselves, and from the top of their mount may have a brave prospect, and draw fresh and wholesome air at all convenient seasons, without walking further abroad into the fields; and if I mistake not in the measure, the ground will bear it well enough, the squares of the first map being more than eleven acres, and of the second map more than fifteen.

“ And so this may take off and replenish six or more of these squares, which may be found supernumeraries, and those so to be taken out, not to lie together, but in methodical places.

“ Within the walls of this city, it would do well that no Brewhouses, Dyehouses, Slaughterhouses, or such like noysome trades or professions were suffered.

“ And thus have I shaped this new city in mine own fancy and conceit; submitting myself to the judgment and censure of more able artists.

“ RICH. NEWCOURTE.”

“ *Postscript.*

“ This or the like handsome model may be observed for forming of the city as is burnt, for what remains standing, it may in after ages be joined to the same as time and opportunity shall serve.

“ As for the owners of the several lands, though the quantity cannot be laid in the same place, yet possibly (for many) somewhat near, and far more commodious both for streets and trade than any part of the city. Each house facing a fair street, and near to one or more of the fine marts, with sweet open air, and a convenient yard or outlet into the back

parts. And if any accident of fire should happen again, (which God forbid) the very streets and piatzoe's will be sufficiently large for the citizens to save their goods."

The consequence of affliction was reformation, and as pride had preceded destruction, repentance followed calamity. On the 11th of November, 1668, Sir William Peake *, lord mayor, issued out a precept for preventing immoralities, profanation of the Lord's day, drunkenness and gaming; for suppressing rogues, vagrants, and sturdy beggars; for keeping the streets duly paved and swept: inflicting a penalty of three shillings and four-pence upon such as did not keep their soil or dirt in tubs till the coming of the raker, and five shillings upon such as should throw or suffer ashes, dirt, or other filth, to be cast out in the streets before their own ground or houses, and twenty shillings for casting dirt, &c. before a neighbour's, or any church, or church yard, or other public place or building, or into any common sink, vault, watercourse or sewer, conformable to the late act of parliament: and it was further ordained that all inhabitants should duly hang and keep out their candles lighted to the accustomed hour; and the constables should sit and continue their watches, according to the direction of former acts of common council. There, also, passed an act of common council, on the 8th of September, 1669, for establishing Newgate, Honey Lane, and Woolchurch markets; and to abolish that which had been kept in Aldersgate Street since the time of the late dismal fire.

The city in a short time rapidly improved, and the alacrity expressed by the government, and by every class of inhabitants, fully evinced that an industrious spirit is not to be subdued by the most calamitous circumstances.

An act of parliament passed in 1670, by which it was enacted, "That besides the streets already appointed to be

* It is reported of this gentleman, that his father possessed five hundred pounds per year, in Lincolnshire; and that he used to ride to town "every year or two," in a splendid equipage of a coach and four horses. *Styke's Stow.*

widened,

widened, those of Pater-noster Row, Warwick Lane, Watling Street, Candlewick Street, Eastcheap, Swithin's Lane, Little Wood Street, Milk Street, Tower Street, Water Lane in Tower Street, Rood Lane, St. Mary Hill, Thames Street from London Bridge to Puddle Dock, Pye Corner, and Thread-needle Street, should also be enlarged; and that the sum of two shillings a chaldron be added to the one shilling a chaldron already granted upon coals to the lord mayor and citizens of London, for the term of seventeen years and five months, for the effectual accomplishment of the said work: and it was also ordered, "That the sole power of regulating, keeping clean, pitching, and paving the streets of the city of London, and of making and cleaning drains and sewers in London, shall remain in the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, to be executed by such persons as the mayor, aldermen, and commonalty shall appoint, and that the mayor, &c. may impose a tax upon houses for the doing thereof."

In pursuance of this authority, the commissioners of the sewers in 1671-2, published the following act of common council, in which are summed up the autient customs and other statutes, rules and orders, relating to the pavement and cleansing the streets:

Rules, Orders, and Directions,

1. *Item*, That hereafter all streets within the city, called or known to be high streets, shall be paved round or cause-way fashion, and upon notice given, to the commissioners, of any defective pavement in any of the streets, lanes, and passages within this city and liberties, the same shall be forth-with made good and amended, unless by general consent some better expedient be found and published.

2. That inasmuch as it hath been found by common experience, that the paviers, to hide and cover their bad workmanship, have oftentimes spread and laid great quantities of gravel over their pavements, to be a greater charge to the persons setting them on work *than* was needful, and which upon a sudden rain, did either choak the common sewers,

or turn to dirt and mire in the streets, therefore the said-paviors are required, that hereafter they do forbear to lay or spread any more gravel on the pavements, than will only fill up the joints of their work, and cause the same to be well swept and rammed, and leave the pavements bare of gravel, and keep a regular method of paving, not paving one door higher than another, upon pain of paying five shillings for every complaint.

3. That the breadth of six feet at least from the foundation of the houses in such of the said high streets which shall be allowed to be parted, shall be paved by the inhabitants or owners, with flat or broad stone for a foot passage, unless such parts thereof, as shall lie before any gateway which may be done with square rag by the said breadth of six feet, upon pain of paying five shillings for every week the same shall be omitted to be done after notice given.

4. That every person having occasion to rebuild or repair any house or houses fronting any street or lane, or common passage, do first procure licence of Mr. Chamberlain, for the time being, to board in a piece of ground before his building, within which to lay his materials for building, or in default, shall pay forty shillings, and twenty shillings for every week's omission so to do.

5. That a fall or cest-pool of convenient bigness shall be made and continued to every grate of the common sewer within this city and liberties, to receive the sand or gravel coming to the same, so to prevent the choaking thereof; and upon complaint at any time made of the want, decay, or defect thereof, the commissioners will forthwith cause the same to be made or amended.

6. That the fellowship of carmen of this city having undertaken for one year, to commence from the first of January 1671, to sweep and cleanse the streets, lanes, and common passages within the said city and liberties, from dung, soil, filth, and dirt, and to carry the same, together with what shall be brought out of the houses of the inhabitants, unto certain lay-stalls appointed, or that shall be appointed by the said commissioners for the time being; the several persons by

them employed in and about this city, whose names, places of abode, number of tunbrills or carts, and the wares in which they are respectively designed, are hereafter set forth, or such other as by death or removal of any of them shall be employed therein, shall keep, observe, and follow the rules and orders hereafter following.

7. That they, their agents or servants, shall come out with their tunbrills or carts, and horses, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, in every week of the year, from the 11th of October to the 11th of February, by five of the clock every morning of the same day, and not continue and remain in the streets, lanes, or passages, after the hour of nine of the clock in the same morning; and from the 11th of February to the 11th of October, to come out as aforesaid, by four of the clock every morning of the same day, and not to continue or remain in the streets, lanes, or passages, after the hour of seven of the clock in the same morning; and upon every Saturday in the year, to come out as aforesaid, by two of the clock in the afternoon of the same day, to remain and continue till eight of the clock, and within the hours and time aforesaid, shall remove all the streets, lanes, and passages, every such article as is their respective divisions, from its wall, wall, and other in carrying of the same, and carrying it away, together with what shall be brought out of the houses of the inhabitants, to the laystalls appointed or that shall be appointed, upon pain of forfeit for every offence ten shillings.

8. That the several inhabitants within this city and suburbs, or their servants, do take care, that the carts, wains, and wain of their houses be in readiness for the carrying, when required, by servants, either by setting out the wares into carts, wains, boxes, baskets, or other vessels, near and adjoining to their houses, or by bringing out the wares within convenient time before the houses, for their departure as aforesaid.

9. That the said carmen, their agents, or servants, in those several wards or divisions, with the assistance of the officers of the inhabitants, who are hereby appointed to give such assistance, shall in times of frost or snow, carry away the

selves in the opening of the channels, and heaping up the ice and snow, that so the passages may be cleared, and upon a thaw of the same, that all the soil and filth found in the streets, lanes, and passages, be carried away upon pain of ten shillings for every day's omission.

10. That no person whatsoever do presume to cast out any soil, horse-dung, or filth, or carry the same into any street, lane, or common passage, after the hours aforesaid, either by night or by day, upon the penalty that the person offending, if known (and if a servant) his or her master or mistress, shall forfeit and pay five shillings; and if not known, the party against whose house the same shall be found, having been laid there in the day time after the hours before mentioned, shall forfeit one shilling; which said several forfeitures shall be paid, the one moiety to the discoverer, and the other to the carman or carmen appointed to cleanse that ward wherein the offence shall be committed.

11. That the several tunbrils or carts employed, or to be employed in this work, shall be marked or numbered, according to the number of carts appointed for each ward, upon the penalty of two shillings for every load carried without such mark.

12. That the several carmen, undertakers in this affair, shall set upon the forepart of his tunbril or cart, open and plain to view; a board, whereon to be painted the city arms, the ward to which he or they are appointed, and the mark or number of his tunbril or cart, upon the penalty of paying three shillings and fourpence a day for want thereof; which said marking is to betoken, the allowance of the commissioners, and to caution the inhabitants from employing of foreign carts.

13. That the said carmen undertakers, their agents or servants, shall give notice of their being in the streets with their tunbrils or carts by loudly knocking a wooden clapper, especially in courts, allies, and other back passages, upon pain to forfeit three shillings and fourpence upon every complaint duly proved.

14. That

14. That the said carmen, their agents or servants, do take care that the falls or cest pools belonging to any grate within their respective wards, be once in a week, or oftener if need require, cleansed of its dirt and filth, and the same carried away, upon pain to forfeit five shillings for every complaint duly proved.

15. That the aforesaid carmen, their agents or servants, and no other, shall also carry away to the lay-stalls aforesaid all such soil, dirt and dung (rubbish or earth excepted) that shall be made or found in any of the houses or stables of any innkeeper, livery stable keeper, brewer, dyer, sugar baker, soap maker, or other trader or inhabitant within any of the wards to which they are respectively appointed and designed, for which such quarterly allowance (over and above the customary rates by the scavengers book) shall be made by the assessors of each ward, according to their best discretion; respect being had to the trade, or other occasion, in the making of more or less dung and soil by such traders or inhabitants.

16. That the aforesaid carmen, their agents or servants, and no other, shall take up and carry away to such persons or places as will receive the same, all such rubbish or earth that shall be made or found within their respective wards or divisions; for which there shall be paid them by the owners or proprietors thereof one shilling per load, and no more, provided they carry it away within one day after notice given, for the conveniency of the owners, and to avoid complaint of them, upon pain that the person offending in either of these cases shall pay two shillings per load.

17. That no other tunbril or cart than what is or shall be appointed and allowed by the said commissioners for the doing the works aforesaid, shall be employed, or shall intermeddle with the carrying of any soil, rubbish, earth, dung, paving stones, Thames gravel, or the like, within this city or liberties, bricks or tiles from the water side, within the said city and liberties; upon pain to pay to the carman and carmen employed in cleansing the streets as aforesaid of the ward where this offence shall be committed,

two

two shillings for every load so taken up or carried in a tunbril or cart ; and for non-payment, that such tunbril or cart shall be carried to the city's pound, called the Green Yard, and there remain till payment thereof. Provided, that if any of the said carmen shall not immediately after notice employ himself in carrying the said materials, to forfeit and pay two shillings for every load thereof, and the owners at liberty to employ foreign carts.

18. That no coachman, carman, carter, drayman, or other person, shall feed his or their horse or horses with hay or grains in the streets, lanes, or common passages within this city and liberties, upon pain to forfeit and pay for every offence two shillings and sixpence, over and above the like sum formerly imposed; and to be paid to the governors of Christ's Hospital ; the one moiety to the discoverer and prosecutor, and the other to the carman or carmen of the ward in which the said offence shall be committed ; and in case of non-payment, to carry the horse or horses to the city pound, called the Green Yard, there to remain till payment thereof.

19. That none of the aforesaid carmen, their agents or servants, or other person or persons, do sweep the filth or soil of the streets, lanes or passages, into any of the channels of this city, in time of rain or otherwise, upon pain to pay six shillings and eightpence for every complaint duly proved.

20. That no man shall cast or lay in the streets, lanes, common passages, or channels within this city, or liberties, any dogs, cats, inwards of beasts, cleaves of beasts, feet bones, horns, dregs or dross of ale or beer, or any noisome thing, upon pain of ten shillings for every offence.

21. That no man set a tunbril car, or cart, in the street, by night time, upon pain to pay two shillings, besides satisfaction to any person hurt thereby.

22. That no man do ride or drive a tunbril, car, cart, or dray, a-trot in the street ; or sit on any part of the car, cart, tunbril, or dray (unless another skilful person lead the horse) upon pain to forfeit and pay two shillings ; in case of non-payment,

payment, to carry the horse to the pound as aforesaid, to remain till payment thereof.

23. That no waggon, cart, or car, shod with iron or spignails, or having more horses than allowed by the aforesaid act of common council, shall take up any goods within this city or liberties, to carry for hire about the streets, upon pain to pay five shillings for every offence; and in case of non-payment, to carry the horse or horses to the aforesaid pound till payment thereof.

24. That no gourg farmer shall carry any ordure till after ten o'clock in the winter, and eleven o'clock in the summer, at night; nor shall spill any ordure in the streets, upon pain to forfeit and pay thirteen shillings and fourpence.

25. That no pudding cart of shambles shall go out till after the hours last before mentioned, upon pain to forfeit six shillings.

26. That no artificer, labourer, or other person, shall make any stop or dam in any channel; nor shall shake any lime in the streets, lanes, or passages, upon pain to pay two shillings for every offence.

27. That no man shall feed any kine, goats, hogs, or any kind of poultry in the open streets, upon pain to forfeit three shillings and fourpence for every offence.

28. That no man shall cast into the ditches or sewers, grates, or gullets of the city, any manner of carrion, stinking fish, rotten oranges, or onions, rubbish, dung, sand, gravel, or any other thing that may stop the course of the same, upon pain of forfeiting forty shillings for every offence.

29. That no man shall make or continue any widraughts, scat or scats for houses of easement over, or drains into any of the common sewers, without licence of the commissioners for the time being, upon pain to forfeit forty shillings, and forty shillings a month for so long time as the same shall be continued after warning.

30. That no person or persons do presume to keep any laystall for dung, rubbish, earth, or other soil, either at the

water side or other place within this city or liberties, other than the common or public laystalls appointed, or to be set out and appointed by the said commissioners for the time being, upon pain to forfeit and pay two pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence ; and forty shillings a week for every week he or they shall so continue to do after warning, or be dictated from time to time as a common nuisance.

31. That no tylers, bricklayers, or other persons, do throw out of gutters, or off roofs, or other parts of houses, any tiles, loam, or rubbish, into any street, lane, or common passage, but do bring down the same in baskets or trays, upon pain to forfeit three shillings and fourpence for every offence.

32. That no person or persons do set out in the streets, lanes, or passages, any hogshead, barrels, or other casks or vessels to hoop, wash, or dry, or otherwise incumber the passage, upon pain to forfeit and pay twenty shillings for every offence.

33. That the dung, mud, filth, and soil of the wards of Billingsgate, Bridge, Langborn, Cornhill, Candlewick, Wallbrook, Vintry, and Dowgate, shall be carried down to the laystall at Dowgate Dock ; of the ward of Portsoken, Tower, Aldgate, Duke's Place, and Lime Street, to the laystall set out at Mile End ; of the ward of Bishopsgate Within and Without, to the laystall at Holloway Lane End, being part of a meadow there belonging to the city ; of the ward of Cripplegate Within and Without, Aldersgate Without, Bassishaw, Coleman Street, and Broad Street, to the laystall at Bun Hill ; of the ward of Cheap, Cordwainer, Queenhithe, and Bread Street, to the laystall at or near the Three Cranes, and in Dunghill Lane, near Broken Wharf, until such time as the public wharf, or key at the river side, shall be laid open ; and afterwards to the laystall at Puddle Dock ; of the wards of Farringdon Within, Castlebaynard, Aldersgate Within, and St. Martin Le Grand, to the laystall at Puddle Dock ; of the ward of Farringdon Without, to the laystall at Whitefriars ; and this course to be used, until

until the commissioners shall see cause to alter the same ; and who shall offend herein shall forfeit and pay five shillings for every offence.

34. That the carmen undertakers, their agents, or servants, shall have liberty to carry rubbish from any parts of the city or liberties into the Vineyard, near Aldgate, for levelling the same till the first of May next, and to shoot the same there gratis ; and after that time to pay such sum for what they then shoot as the commissioners shall require.

35. That inasmuch as the said carmen have undertaken to do this work in better manner, and to greater satisfaction than heretofore hath been done, and the commissioners believing from what they have already observed that they will accordingly perform the same, do therefore exhort all persons that shall be rated towards this work, willingly and readily to pay the same ; so to prevent trouble and discouragement to the said carmen in a work of this nature, so requisite and necessary to the health and trade of the inhabitants of this city.

36. That the several pains and penalties before mentioned, not particularly expressed to whom to be paid, shall be paid into the chamber of London, upon summons or warning by the officers attending the commissioners, or either of them ; or in default, the offender or offenders to be indicted at the sessions for his or their respective offences.

37. That if any of the aforesaid carmen, their agents or servants, do offend in any of the particulars aforesaid, or otherwise relating to this affair, that complaint be made thereof to the commissioners at the Guildhall, who will deal with them according to their offences.

38. That the scavengers for the time being in the several wards or precincts within this city and liberties, do take care, either by their own observations, or complaints made to them by any of the inhabitants, that the said carmen, their agents or servants, do accordingly perform the several branches aforementioned to them relating, or to make complaint thereof to the commissioners, upon pain that the said scavengers shall from time to time, for their negligence or

remissness, be indicted at the sessions, unless they shall submit to the censure and judgment of the said commissioners for the time being."

In addition to the calamities of the mother city, great part of the Borough of Southwark was destroyed by fire in the year 1676; but it soon experienced a like renovation, by being regularly and substantially rebuilt with brick, which commencing at a small distance from the foot of London Bridge, reached beyond St. Margaret's Hill.

The citizens of London appear at this time to have been rather careless in their choice of members to represent them in common council; for, on the 12th of December this year, an order was made by the lord mayor and aldermen, that the precepts to be issued for holding of wardmotes should require, "that no person be chosen a common councilman, who has been convicted of defrauding, in weights, measures, or such like crimes, nor any person who has compounded, through inability, to pay his debts."

The plots and counterplots subsequent to this period, are disgraceful to the contrivers and promoters; the political squabbles, the vast strides to destroy the civil and religious liberties of the country; and the party contests which gave rise to the vulgar epithets of Whig and Tory*, form a disgusting retrospect. We pass gladly therefore to the year 1681, when by an act of common council it was ordained, "That every car, cart or caroon should have the arms of the city of London on its shaft, and a piece of brass with the number engraven on it; and that those who should work unlicensed cars should, for every offence, pay a forfeit of

* The court party reproached their antagonists with their resemblance to the conventiclers in Scotland, who were commonly called Whigs; a name derived from a kind of butter-milk, upon which the covenanters were supposed to live. The country party discovered a similitude between the courtiers and the popish banditti in Ireland, who were usually distinguished by the appellation of Tories, and such was the origin of these ridiculous terms, which have ever since prevailed in England; and is at this day the denominating features of those parties, which are distinguishable either of the independent interest of the country, or the more immediate friends of the ruling government.

thirteen shillings and fourpence." Several good regulations were also made for the due measuring of coals sold in small quantities by retail dealers.

The most fatal error committed by the machinations of the court, was the invasion of the chartered rights of the whole dominion, by the writ of *Quo Warranto*, which was issued against the fundamental privileges of the city.

The crown, by the most unjust pretensions, had arrogated to itself a right to nominate the sheriffs; but as this right was liable to be annually contested, a more decisive blow was meditated, by which the king would not only become sole disposer of the city franchises; but by the means suggested, might assume in his own person the magistracy of every corporation in England; and that mercenary lawyers should not be wanting to assist in these despotic measures, the most blemished characters had been promoted to the highest judicial dignities; and these persons evinced their gratitude to their employers by the iniquity of their proceedings against their already oppressed fellow subjects. Sir Robert Sawyer, the attorney general, by the advice and authority of Sir Edmund Saunders*, undertook to over-

* Sir Edmund Saunders was originally a strolling beggar about the streets, without known parents or relations. He came often to beg scraps at Clement's Inn, where he was taken notice of for his uncommon sprightliness; and as he expressed a strong inclination to learn to write, one of the attorney's clerks taught him, and soon qualified him for a hackney writer. He took all opportunities of improving himself by reading such books as he borrowed of his friends; and, in the course of a few years, became an able attorney, and a very eminent counsel. His practice in the court of King's Bench was exceeded by none; his art and cunning was equal to his knowledge; and he carried many a cause by laying snares. If he was detected, he was never out of countenance, but evaded the matter with a jest, which he had always at hand. He was much employed by the king, against the city of London, in the business of the *Quo Warranto*. His person was as heavy and ungain, as his wit was alert and sprightly. He is said to have been "a mere lump of morbid flesh:" the smell of him was so offensive, that people usually held their noses when he came into the court. One of his jests on this occasion was, that "none could say he wanted issue, for he had no less than nine on his back." *Granger*.

throw.

throw the charter of the metropolis, on the most frivolous pretences.

The chief of these were, 1. That the court of common council having presented a petition to the king on his proroguing the parliament, when they were about to try several noble persons on the popish plot; and for their printing and publishing the said petition, which was deemed seditious, and possessing the people with an ill opinion of the king and government:

2. That on rebuilding the markets after the Great Fire, certain tolls had been established by the corporation on goods brought to market, towards defraying the expences; which, to suit the present intention of the court, were said to be illegal:

3. That all the crown gave was forfeitable back to the crown again upon a malversation of the body:

4. That, as the common council was the body of the city, chosen by all the citizens, so they were all involved in what the common council did. And,

5. Since they had both scandalized the king's government, and oppressed their fellow subjects, they had, in consequence, forfeited their liberties.

To this the corporation pleaded, 1. That upon the warrant of many charters they claimed to be, and were a body politic, and traversed their usurping upon the king:

2. That by the same warrant, the liberty and franchise thus granted, they claimed to make and constitute sheriffs:

3. That by several patents of Charles I. they claimed to be justices and to hold sessions.

To make the iniquity against the city more palpable, it is observable, that when the demurrer in this cause was joined, Sir Francis Pemberton sat as chief justice of the King's Bench; but before the ensuing term, when it was to be argued, he was removed, and made chief justice of the Common Pleas, merely to provide for Sir Edmund Saunders, who, for drawing out and advising these pleadings to gratify the king, or rather his brother the Duke of York, was promoted to be chief justice of England.

But

But in the hands of a besotted and dishonourable king, and labouring under the irritated malevolence of his bigotted brother the duke of York; tried by corrupt judges, who were only appointed to condemn; and opposed to all the strength which such united power had usurped, the city magistracy too feeble to make any stand for their privileges, were compelled to bow to shameless decisions, till they might be relieved in happier and better times.

The endeavours of the citizens to support their conduct, and repel such infringements on their dear bought liberties, were strenuously resisted by the ministry, determined, at all events to crush them. Accordingly in Trinity term, on the 12th of June 1683, the *Quo Warranto* being argued and determined, justice Jones, Saunders having died during the interim, pronounced, by order of the court, the following sentence on the city :

“ That a city might forfeit its charter; that the malversations of the common council were acts of the whole city; and that the two points set forth in the pleadings, were just grounds for the forfeiting of a charter. Upon which premises the conclusion seemed to be, that therefore the city of London had forfeited its charter.”

But what is singular, although it was determined that the king *might* seize the liberties of the city, yet, *contrary to what is usual in such cases*, the attorney-general was ordered to move, *that the judgment might not be recorded*.

The alarmed citizens immediately summoned a court of common council to deliberate on what measures were most proper to pursue in such an exigency. The country party moved to have the judgment entered; but this was overruled by the court party, who basely insisted upon an absolute submission to the king, before judgment was entered: and though this was in effect a voluntary surrender of the city liberties, and depriving themselves of the means of obtaining the judgment to be reversed, the act of submission was carried by a great majority. The consequence of which was, a petition drawn up, and carried to the king at Windsor, on
the

the eighteenth of June, by the lord mayor, at the head of a deputation from the council; in which petition, "they acknowledged their own misgovernment, and his majesty's lenity; solicited his pardon, and promised constant loyalty and obedience; and humbly begged his majesty's commands and direction." Degrading, unjust, and dishonourable proceeding!—which, as in the event it proved, could not be binding; being extorted by falsehood, tyranny, and the severest oppression!

When the king had read their petition, the lord-keeper North, by his majesty's order, after reproaching them for not having been more early in their application, told them, that the king would not reject their suit on the following conditions:

1. That no lord mayor, sheriff, recorder, common-serjeant, town-clerk, or coroner of the city of London, or steward of the borough of Southwark, should be capable of, or admitted to, the exercise of their respective offices, before his majesty had approved them under his sign manual.

2. That, if his majesty should disapprove the choice of any person to be lord mayor, and signified the same under his sign manual to the lord mayor, or, or in default of a lord mayor, to the recorder or senior alderman, the citizens within one week were to proceed to a new choice: and, if his majesty, in like manner, disapproved of the second choice, his majesty might, if he pleased, nominate a person to be lord mayor for the ensuing year.

4. That the lord mayor and court of aldermen might also, *with the leave of his majesty*, displace an alderman, recorder, &c. &c.

5. Upon the election of an alderman, if the court of aldermen should judge and declare the person presented to be unfit, the ward to chuse again; and, upon a disapproval of a second choice, the court to appoint another.

6. The justices of the peace to be by the king's commission; and the settling of these matters to be left to his majesty's attorney and solicitor-general, and council learned in the law.

To

To which the lord-keeper added, "That these regulations being made, his majesty would not only stop this prosecution, but would also confirm their charter." And concluded thus: "My lord mayor, the term draws towards an end, and Midsummer is at hand, when some of the officers used to be chosen; whereof his majesty will reserve the approbation. Therefore it is his majesty's pleasure, that you return to the city, and consult the common council, that he may speedily know your resolutions thereupon, and accordingly give his directions. That you may see the king is in earnest, and the matter is not capable of delay, I am commanded to let you know, he hath given orders to his attorney-general to enter upon judgment on Saturday next, unless you prevent it by your compliance in all these particulars."

On the return of the lord mayor and his attendants, a court of common council was immediately summoned to determine whether or not these stipulations should be accepted; and violent debates ensued on the question: the friends of liberty declared they would sacrifice all that was dear to them, rather than yield to such slavish conditions; nevertheless, their acceptance was at length carried by a majority of eighteen.

The king having thus humbled the city of London, all the other corporations in the kingdom perceived it would be in vain to oppose the court; and therefore most of them tamely resigned their charters into the king's hands: nor could they obtain a restoration of them, till they had paid considerable sums; and even then, all the places of power and profit, like those of the capital, were left entirely at the disposal of the crown, in which state they remained till the Revolution.

The seizure of the city charter, emboldened the king and his brother to the imposition of exorbitant fines and damages, the consequence of cruel and illegal process. The Penal and Test laws were violated, and the most infamous criminal prosecutions ensued*.

But

* When the house of commons in 1680, had impeached several delinquents, the fine of 1,000*l.* was the subject of bitter complaints; but

But the unjust trials, sentences, and executions of Lord Russell, Algernon Sidney, and other worthy and great men, filled up the measure of iniquity in this "unprincipely reign;" except it could be exceeded by the impious duplicity of Charles, who, under the specious and ostentatious profession of Protestantism, closed a life of perjury, by a declaration of his faith in the doctrines of the Römish church, in breach of his coronation oath! He, therefore, that could be alternately a Papist, a Presbyterian, a Churchman, and a Quaker, as it suited his purpose; had certainly, no difficulty in abandoning himself to the profaneness of Atheism. One who made no conscience in the practice of deceit and corruption, would not be scrupulous in betraying the dearest interests of his dominions, and sacrificing to his detested policy, the blood and treasure of his best subjects! This monarch's conduct fully proved, that

"No government can e'er be safe that's founded

"On lust, on murder, and despotic power." TRAPP.

The first blow that Charles struck to undermine the city which had been so lately raised from the greatest misfortune, was to stab her credit; this was effected by shutting up the Exchequer. The consequence of such a step was, the bankruptcy of the principal merchants and traders in the city, among these Sir Robert Viner, and Mr. alderman Backwell*, suffered considerably. The infamous instruments of his arbitrary power, were denominated the CABAL†, who contrived

these were silenced by greater; for the fines were soon increased to 10,000*l.* 40,000*l.* and even to 100,000*l.*

* Edward Backwell, alderman of London, was a banker of great ability, industry, and integrity; and, what was a consequence of his merit, of very extensive credit. With such qualifications, he, in a trading nation, would, in the natural event of things, have made a fortune, except in such an age as that of Charles the Second, when the laws were overborne by perfidy, violence, and rapacity. Backwell carried on his business in the same shop which was afterwards occupied by CHILD, an unblemished name, which is entitled to respect and honour; but was totally ruined upon the shutting up of the Exchequer. He, to avoid a prison, retired into Holland, where he died. *Granger.*

† The word *Cabal*, is formed by the initials of the five following persons: Sir Thomas Clifford, the Popish lord treasurer, who devised the scheme,

trived to enrich their fortunes by the establishment of tyranny ; and raised themselves into royal estimation by the ruin they had plotted against their country.

The sanguinary * bigotted tyrant James, ascended a throne which he was unworthy to fill ; and was “ forced to relinquish a crown which he was totally unfit to wear.” His enmity to the city of London was never effaced ; and though he restored the charter of which he had been the means to deprive her, it was fear only that impelled his conduct. Very little scruple of conscience could be expected from a prince who had deprived the city of its religious and civil liberties, who by robbery taken away its magistracy, and had suspended the Protestant bishop of the diocese from his functions †.

scheme ; the Earl of Arlington, a man of low cunning ; the debauched Duke of Buckingham ; Sir Anthony Ashley (Cowper) ; and the libertine Duke of Lauderdale. Such men composed this cabinet council of political infamy, and persuaded the king, “ that his interest was unconnected with that of his people !”

* Authors mention that Jefferies and Kirk were urged on by the king to the Black Western Judicature ; and the former confessed that he had incurred James’s displeasure, because he was not more cruel !

† The honourable Dr. Compton, bishop of London, was emphatically called *The Protestant Bishop*, for the noble stand he made in the defence of the right of the church in this reign, where spirit and resolution were much more necessary than learning. He patronized converts from Popery, and was a generous friend to the French Protestants, who fled hither from the persecution of Lewis XIV. He appeared in arms at Nottingham, a little before the Revolution, (as he had formerly done during the civil wars, where his father the loyal Earl of Northampton was killed), and declared his readiness to fight for the prince of Orange. He was a true son and brave champion of the church, and a most munificent benefactor to it ; whatever imperfections there might be in his character, he was allowed to be much of a gentleman, and no less a Christian. King James discoursing with him on some tender point, was so little pleased with his answers, that he told him, “ He talked more like a colonel than a bishop.” To which he replied, “ that his majesty did him honour in taking notice of his having formerly drawn his sword in defence of the constitution ; and that he would do the same again, if he lived to see it necessary.” Accordingly, when matters were coming to extremity, he carried off the Princess Anne to Nottingham, and marched into that town at the head of a fine troop of gentlemen and their attendants, who had formed a guard for her highness. *Granger.*

The circumstances of the encroachments on the religious liberties of England, as far as related to London, are too singular not to be detailed. Dr. Sharp, rector of St. Giles's in the Fields, afterwards archbishop of York, had in a sermon vindicated the church of England, in opposition to the errors of Popery. On receiving this information, James pretended that the preacher's intention was to beget an evil opinion of him and his government, in the minds of his hearers, as a mean to excite them to disobedience and rebellion. Upon this ground, he sent a mandatory letter to the bishop of London, forthwith to suspend Dr. Sharp, "from farther preaching in any parish church or chapel in his diocese, till satisfaction had been given, or till the king's farther pleasure was known." On the receipt of this order, the bishop returned an answer to the Earl of Sunderland, the contents of which his lordship requested might be communicated to his majesty. In this answer the bishop stated, "that he could not proceed otherwise than by the established law, and as a judge; and that by such law, no judge could condemn any man, before he had knowledge of the cause, and the parties had been cited to answer the accusation." Dr. Sharp himself was the bearer of the letter, wishing to exculpate himself from any intention of personal offence; but could obtain no answer. And although two days after, he waited on the king at Windsor, with a petition to the same effect, his endeavours to apologize were rendered abortive, by the contempt with which he was treated; for the king and his council had previously determined that no better opportunity might probably offer to punish the bishop, who had rendered himself particularly odious to the court, by his strictures on a speech which James had delivered to parliament, and which his lordship had moved in the House of Lords might be examined; besides, so eminent an example for the exercise of severity, would establish the authority of the new Ecclesiastical Court which had been lately formed. The bishop was, therefore, cited to appear before the commissioners, where he was treated by Jefferies, with a degree of brutality, unbecoming either the sacredness due to the prelate's character,

or

or the dignity proper to be observed to the noble family of which he was a branch. When he demanded a copy of the commission, or at least to hear it read, he was insolently refused by Jefferies, who insultingly added to his refusal, "The commission may be had in any Coffee House!" At last, with great difficulty, a delay of proceedings for five days was obtained. When the bishop appeared the second time before this court, he was referred to another hearing, at which he boldly denied its jurisdiction, and alledged, "that, as a bishop, he had no judge but his metropolitan." However just this plea might be *in law*, the ruling powers had set up defiance; and the prelate, after two or three adjournments of the court, was suspended from the functions and exercise of his episcopal office, for his imputed disobedience and contempt. Crewe, bishop of Durham, Sprat, bishop of Rochester, and White, bishop of Peterborough, were appointed commissioners for the episcopal duties in the diocese of London, during Dr. Compton's suspension; and that the import of these proceedings might more evidently appear, Dr. Sharp, who had also been suspended, was restored to his church duty after the lapse of a few days.

But these instances had not been the only ones by which the king gratified his bigotry and revenge; for, as the harbingers of his present rancorous proceedings against the Protestant profession, he had previously issued a prosecution against alderman Cornish, who exerted himself, when sheriff, in the year 1680, to detect and prosecute such as had been concerned in the Popish plot. On Tuesday the 13th of October 1685, he was committed to Newgate, and denied the use of pen, ink, and paper. On Saturday following, he received notice that an indictment of high treason was preferred against him, and that he was to be tried on the Monday following, for a supposed concern in the Rye House plot.

During this short interval, he earnestly requested time to prepare for his defence; he petitioned the king, alledging that he did not know wherein his treason consisted. James referred the petition to the judges, but Jefferies, at this time
attorney-

attorney-general, abruptly told him, "that he had not so well deserved of the government, as to expect such an indulgence." And although the alderman strongly urged, "that his most material evidence was then above an hundred and fifty miles from London," yet on the Monday he was brought to his trial, and indicted for conspiring with other false traitors to raise a rebellion in the kingdom in the late reign, to destroy the king, and subvert the constitution. The principal evidence against him was colonel Rumsey, an infamous and profligate villain; and one Goodenough, who had been outlawed, but was pardoned on purpose that he might have the opportunity of giving testimony against Mr. Cornish.

The evidence of these base men did not in the least affect the alderman, he was nevertheless condemned, and, on the twenty-third of the same month, hanged, drawn and quartered, facing his own house, at the end of King Street, Cheapside.

These arbitrary proceedings involved the whole nation in terror. The church, hitherto the supporters of the monarchy, were alarmed; and even the army, by whose assistance alone James had proposed to govern, were highly disgusted. The horror of former periods against Popery was revived by polemical books and sermons; and in every dispute, the victory seemed to be gained by the Protestant divines, who conducted their arguments with more learning and eloquence. It is justice here to transmit to lasting posterity, the revered names of those faithful ministers of the gospel, who by their sound doctrines, repelled by their sermons and writings, the varied attacks of persecution and violence against the Protestant national establishment of the country: these were Tillotson, Stillingfleet, Tennison, Wake, Patrick, Sharp, and Sherlock!—each afterwards promoted to the first dignities in the church of England.

During these disputes, an incident happened, that displayed popery in all its terrors. Lewis XIV. of France, having revoked the edict of Nantz, enacted by Henry IV. for securing to the French Protestants the free exercise of their religion,

religion, left those distressed people exposed to all the rigour of persecution, and obliged them to seek that protection abroad, which was denied them in their own country. In the year 1686, above half a million of Lewis's most industrious subjects deserted France, and exported, besides their property, those arts and manufactures which had contributed to enrich that country. Near fifty thousand of these refugees came over into England, whose arrival added to the general terror of James's, intention to abolish the Protestant religion. Fifteen thousand five hundred of these were relieved by a brief, on which was collected the sum of 63,713*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* Besides those who stood in need of charitable assistance, thirteen thousand five hundred of them settled in and about London; and the citizens exerted themselves with a laudable emulation to assist and support them. To supply habitations for these, the remainder of a plot of ground in Spital Fields, was laid out into streets, and forms that mass of buildings, which at the present day is as extensive as many cities; and the manufacturers excel the rest of the world in the several branches of Silk-weaving.

None can consider the horrid retrospect of this reign, without experiencing those emotions which appal human nature. The infamous Jefferies and his abandoned coadjutor Kirk! names worthily doomed to lasting execration; were the instruments which James, more effectually to hasten his own abdication, used to sacrifice that people to whom he ought to have been a *father*. Let posterity with unabated terror hear the following related, among many others which occurred during the various tragedies which were acted in the western counties: At Taunton, Kirk being invited to dinner, his officers, who with the soldiers under his command, were denominated "*Kirk's Lambs*," on account of their cruelty, ordered, whilst they were at table, THIRTY PERSONS TO BE HANGED; the first ten whilst a health was drank to the king; the next, at the queen's health; and the last in a bumper to Jefferies! Not all the apologies which father Orleans, or any other advocate can make for James, can obliterate from memory an act so palpable, a transaction

so barbarous ; and with such reiterated murders attached to it, nothing can blot out the obloquy to his memory ; which is sufficiently confirmed by the king's own conduct in promoting to the highest office of the law, the minion of his revengeful temper. Jefferies was appointed Lord High Chancellor at the moment his hand, instead of holding the balance of justice tempered with mercy, was clotted with the blood of his injured fellow subjects.

It suited James's purpose, that London, also should particularly feel the extent of relentless disposition. Mrs. Gaunt's case was peculiarly pitiable ; one of the western rebels availing himself of her humane disposition, as being celebrated for her beneficence, applied to her in his distress, and was concealed. Understanding, however, that the king would sooner pardon rebels, than those who harboured them, the villain, with the most accomplished baseness, went and surrendered himself, at the expence of betraying his benefactress, while she was employed in using endeavours to convey him safely out of the kingdom. His treachery was rewarded with a pardon, and the unhappy Mrs. Gaunt was burned alive for her misplaced charity. Six men were also hanged at Tyburn as traitors, for crimes of a like nature ; and, *what is more strange*, WITHOUT ANY PREVIOUS TRIAL !

James, at last, desirous of confirming his despotic power, and inflamed by a frantic zeal, seemed determined no longer to keep any measures with his subjects. He had already published a declaration of indulgence, in cases of religion, merely to introduce Popery, and now presumed to suspend the penal laws.

On the 22d of April, 1688, he published a Second Declaration, to which he subjoined an order, that immediately after divine service, it should be read by the clergy in all the churches. This was a manifest insult upon the ministers of the established religion, and at the same time that they execrated the proceedings against them, to take advantage of their non-compliance with the royal mandate. In this dilemma, some of the bishops ordered the declaration to be read, but the far greater number refused to accede to such tyrannic measures.

On

On the 27th of April, six of the prelates who were in London, assembled at the archbishop's palace at Lambeth, in order to consult with him on so critical a point; the result of the conference was, "That as the king could not be obeyed without betraying their own consciences, it was better to obey God than man." They, therefore, drew up a petition to the king, beseeching him not to insist on their distributing and reading the said declaration; and crossing the river privately, attended by Dr. Sancroft, archbishop of Canterbury, they immediately delivered it to the king. These prelates were Dr. Lloyd, bishop of St. Asaph; Dr. Ken, of Bath and Wells; Dr. Turner, of Ely; Dr. Lake, of Chichester; Dr. White, of Peterborough; and Sir Jonathan Trelawney, of Bristol.

James, who was ever haughty and impatient of control, having read their petition, dismissed them from his presence by telling them, "That if they had forgot he was supreme head of the church, he knew how to make himself acknowledged as such."

To give more publicity to his proceedings, as the petition had been delivered to him in private, James summoned the bishops before the council, and there questioned them, "Whether they would acknowledge having signed the petition?" The bishops seeing his intention, were long desirous to decline answering: but being urged by Jefferies, the chancellor, the archbishop of Canterbury at last acknowledged, that it had been written by him, and the rest declared they had signed it. Jefferies asked them, if they would give bail to appear in the court of King's Bench, and answer to the charge which should be brought against them for this libel? They replied, No: that their privileges as peers exempted them from the necessity of giving security, or being charged with a misdemeanour; and that they were bound by oath to maintain the rights of the peerage, as well as the rights of the church.

Jefferies, enraged at this answer, told them, "That, unless they instantly retracted their assertions, and withdrew

their petition, he would send them to the Tower." Their answer was, "That their own consciences told them they had acted nothing but what was agreeable to the laws, and the sacred character with which they were invested; and that they depended on the King of kings to be their protector." An order was immediately drawn out for their commitment to the Tower; and the crown lawyers received directions to prosecute them for a seditious libel.

All ranks of people were seized with astonishment when they found the fathers of the church dragged to confinement. The court, aware of the odiousness of the measure, and fearful of disturbance among the people, had ordered that they should not be carried through London, but be conveyed under a proper guard, by water, to the Tower. But the alarm soon spread, and the shore was lined with innumerable spectators, who, at the same time that they execrated the proceedings against these good prelates, on their knees intreated their blessing.

The conduct of the bishops on this occasion increased the love their sufferings had begun; they checked the transports of the multitude, and exhorted them to "Fear God, honour the king, and maintain their loyalty." The very soldiers of the garrison, moved by sympathy, fell on their knees, and besought the blessings of the prisoners they were appointed to guard.

When the trial of the patriotic and virtuous fathers of the established church, came on, they were attended to Westminster Hall, by twenty-nine temporal peers; and such crouds of gentry joined the solemn procession, that there was hardly room for them to enter the Hall. Notwithstanding the bishops pleaded the most undeniable arguments in justification of their conduct, and that even some of the judges declared themselves in favour of the prisoners, yet the jury took several hours to deliberate, during which time the people were in the most anxious expectation. But when they at last brought in their verdict *Not Guilty*, the hall resounded with shouts of joy. The happy news was instantly

stantly communicated to every part of the city, and from thence propagated with infinite joy throughout the whole kingdom.

Obstinately unwilling to recede from the illegal proceedings which had already estranged the affections of his injured subjects, James pursued the means of oppression to their extremity. The nation became alarmed, and the principal characters of England and Scotland, were compelled to seek a protector of their injured rights, in the person of the Prince of Orange, the king's nephew and son-in-law. The Prince was no stranger to the discontents of James's subjects, and was determined that his interest, from whatever source that arose, should profit by the national murmurs. He accepted the invitation, embarked in the cause, and soon found that the steps taken for his cordial reception, were concerted with the greatest prudence.

James, when too late, saw that the popular resentment was more than merely popular clamour, and in the real discontents of his people, he beheld the fatal error he had committed; he would have retracted the steps he had taken in favour of Papal jurisdiction.

Like all despotic rulers, timid when disaffection reduced his circumstances to the ruin he deserved, he had the pitifulness to apply for assistance to the very reverend characters, whom he had so lately proscribed and imprisoned.

On the 24th of September, the following letter was sent to the archbishop of Canterbury :

“ MY LORD,

“ The king thinking it requisite to speak with your grace, and several others of the bishops, who are within a convenient distance of the place, his majesty commands me to acquaint you, that he would have you attend him on Friday next, at ten in the morning. I am, my lord, your grace's most faithful, and most humble servant.

SUNDERLAND.”

Letters to the same purpose, and of the same date (or about that time) were sent to the Bishops of London, Winchester, Ely, Chichester, Bath and Wells, Peterborough, Bristol, and Rochester: all who (but London and Bristol) came to town; and all (but the archbishop) waited on the king at the time appointed. The next day the Bishop of Winchester went out of town, and the day after that the archbishop waited upon the king alone; and by his appointment on Wednesday October 3d, all, who remained in town, went together to his majesty; to whom (in the name of the rest) the archbishop spake, as followeth:

“ May it please your sacred majesty;

“ When I had lately the honour to wait upon you, you were pleas'd briefly to acquaint me with what had past two daies before between your majesty, and these my reverend brethren: by which, and by the account, which they themselves gave me, I perceiv'd, that in truth there past nothing, but in very general terms, and expressions of your majesty's gracious, and favourable inclinations to the church of England, and of our reciprocal duty, and loyalty to your majesty: both which were sufficiently understood, and declar'd before; and (as one of my brethren * then told you) would have been in the same state, if the bishops had not stir'd one foot out of their dioceses. Sir, I found, it griev'd my lords the bishops to have come so far, and to have done so little: and I am assur'd, they came then prepar'd to have given your majesty some more particular instances of their duty, and zeal for your service; had they not apprehended from some words, which fell from your majesty, that you were not then at leisure to receive them. It was for this reason, that I then besought your majesty to command us once more to attend you all together; which your majesty was pleas'd graciously to allow, and encourage. We are therefore here now before you, with all humility to beg your permission, that we may suggest to your majesty such advices, as we think proper at this season, and conducing to

* Bishop of Bath and Wells.

your

your service, and so leave them to your princely consideration."—Which the king being pleas'd graciously to permit; the archbishop proceeded, as followeth. "Our first humble advice is;

" 1. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd, to put the management of your government in the several counties into the hands of such of the nobility, and gentry there, as are legally qualified for it.

" 2. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd, to annull your commission for ecclesiastical affairs; and that no such court, as that commission sett's up, may be erected for the future.

" 3. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd, that no dispensation may be granted, or continued, by virtue whereof any person, not duly qualified by law, hath been or may be put into any place, office, or preferment in church, or state, or in the universities, or continued in the same; especially such, as have cure of souls annex't to them; and in particular, that you will be graciously pleas'd to restore the president, and fellows of St. Mary Magdalen college in Oxford.

" 4. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd, to sett aside all licences, or faculties already granted, by which any persons of the Romish communion may pretend to be enabled to teach public scholes; and that no such be granted for the future.

" 5. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd to desist from the exercise of such a dispensing power, as hath of late been us'd; and to permitt that point to be freely and calmly debated, and argued, and finally settled in parliament.

" 6. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd to inhibit the four forain bishops, who stile themselves vicars apostolical, from farther invading the ecclesiastical jurisdiction, which is by law vested in the bishops of this church.

" 7. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd to fill the vacant bishopricks, and other ecclesiastical promotions within your gift both in England and Ireland, with men of
learning

learning and pietie : and in particular (which I must own to be my peculiar boldness, for 'tis done without the privity of my brethren ;) that you will be graciously pleas'd forthwith to fill the archiepiscopall chair of York (which hath so long stood empty, and upon which a whole province depends) with some very worthy person : for which (pardon me, Sir, if I am bold to say) you have here now before you a very fair choice.

“ 8. That your majesty will be graciously pleas'd to supersede all farther prosecution of *Quo Warrantos* against corporations, and to restore to them their ancient charters, privileges and franchises ; as we hear God hath put it into your majesty's heart to doe for the citie of London ; which we intended to have made otherwise one of our principal requests.

“ 9. That if it so please your majesty, writs may be issued out with convenient speed, for the calling of a free and regular parliament ; in which the church of England may be secur'd according to the acts of uniformity ; provision may be made for a due liberty of conscience, and for securing the liberties and properties of all your subjects ; and a mutual confidence, and good understanding may be established between your majesty, and all your people.

“ 10. Above all, that your majesty will be graciously pleas'd, to permitt your bishops to offer you such motives, and arguments, as (we trust) may by God's grace be effectual to persuade your majesty to return to the communion of the church of England : into who's most Catholique faith you were baptized, and in which you were educated, and to which it is our daily earnest praier to God, that you may be reunited.

“ These (Sir) are the humble advices, which out of conscience of the duty, we owe to God, to your majesty and to our countrie, we think fitt at this time to offer to your majesty, as suitable to the present state of your affairs, and most conducing to your service, and so to leave them to your princely consideration. And we heartily beseech Almighty God, “in who's hand the hearts of all kings are, so to dispose,

pose, and govern yours, that in all your thoughts, words, and works you may ever seek his honour and glory, and study to preserve the people committed to your charge in wealth, peace, and godliness;" to your own both temporal, and eternall happiness. AMEN.

We also doe heartily
concur.

H. LONDON.

P. WINCHESTER.

W. ASAPH.

W. CANT.

FRAN. ELY.

JO. CICESTR.

THO. ROFFEN.

THO. BATH and WELLS.

T. PETRIBURG."

The consequence of the above advices was, the king's declaration in council, " that in pursuance of his resolution and intentions to protect the church of England ; and that all suspicions and jealousies to the contrary may be removed, he had thought fit to dissolve the Commission for Causes Ecclesiastical, &c. and accordingly did give directions to the lord chancellor of England to cause the same to be forthwith done."

James's concessions were now as mean as his tyranny had been excessive. He restored the charter to the city with all its antient franchises and privileges ; and to render this restoration as pompous as possible, ordered Jefferies to carry down the instrument of restitution and confirmation with the great seal of England affixed. But the wound in the constitution had been too deeply inflicted to admit of mere palliatives ; a radical alteration of system was the only means to prevent relapse, and this was sought for in the Prince of Orange. His successes, and the desertions from James's court, were palpable indicatives of the public mind, the king therefore, having sent his family before him, relinquished his throne ; and, in the deceitful caresses of a French court, preferred a life of pension and submissive meanness to the government of a great and free nation, which was naturally inclined to his person and family, and which he might have ruled with dignity and approbation, had not the detested councils of sycophants, and the effect
of

of his bigotry and malice, compelled his people to shake off an authority which his mal-conduct had rendered intolerable.

We close the subject of this disgraceful and disgusting æra of tyranny, with an anecdote highly expressive of the estimation in which James's conduct was held by the mass of his subjects. In affliction he had the meanness to solicit the loyalty of a citizen whose relations he had immolated; the reproach he received was unanswerable. It appears that Mr. William Kyffin was the grandfather of two amiable young men, executed for the rebellion in the West, with circumstances of peculiar cruelty. This gentleman, from his great eminence as a merchant in London, being thought to have considerable influence in the city, was therefore sent for to court by James, who told him, that "he had put down his name as an alderman in his new charter." "Sir," replied Kyffin, "I am a very old man; I have withdrawn myself from all kind of business for some years past, and am incapable of doing any service, in such an affair, to your majesty or the city." "Besides, Sir," (the old man went on, fixing his eyes steadfastly on the king, while the tears ran down his cheeks) "the death of my grandsons gave a wound to my heart, which is still bleeding, and never will close but in the grave*."

The nature of our work compels us to conclude this inauspicious reign, by denominating James II. peculiarly

THE ENEMY OF LONDON!

When those whom Heaven distinguishes o'er millions,
And showers profusely power and splendor on them,
Whate'er th' expanded heart can wish; when they,
Accepting the reward, neglect the duty,
Or worse, pervert those gifts to deeds of ruin,
Is there a wretch they rule so base as they?
Guilty, at once, of sacrilege to Heaven!
And of perfidious robbery to man!

MALLET.

* Hughes's Letters.

LONDON,

LONDON, FROM THE REVOLUTION IN 1688 TO THE CLOSE
OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

JAMES, in every part of his conduct, had been inconsiderate ; but none of his imprudencies were more glaring than his abdication. By this precipitate act he had done his utmost endeavour to involve the country in anarchy ; at the same time that he discovered very plainly his aversion to calling a free parliament : and, added to these, the sending his son to France, manifested a fixed desire that the infant should be educated in the Popish faith ; therefore every mutual tie between him and his people were consequently dissolved.

Upon his abdication from the throne which he had disgraced, about thirty of the peers and bishops then in town (being the only remaining authority of the state) met at Guildhall ; and after a short consultation with the lord mayor and aldermen, resolved to adhere to the Prince of Orange, and send deputies to him, with the following instrument, which contained their intentions, and was signed and immediately published :

*Declaration of the Peers assembled at Guildhall, on the
Abdication of James II.*

“ We doubt not but the world believes that, in this great and dangerous conjuncture, we are heartily and zealously concerned for the Protestant religion, the laws of the land, and the liberties and properties of the subject ; and we did reasonably hope that the king, having issued his proclamation and writs for a free parliament, we might have rested secure, under the expectation of that meeting : but his majesty having withdrawn himself, and, as we apprehend, in order to his departure out of this kingdom, by the pernicious counsels of persons ill-affected to our nation and religion ; we cannot, without being wanting to our duty, be silent under these calamities, wherein the Popish counsels, which so long prevailed, have miserably involved these realms : we do therefore unanimously resolve to apply ourselves to his highness the Prince of Orange, who, with great kindness to these kingdoms, so vast expence, and so much hazard to his

own person, hath undertaken, by endeavouring to procure a free parliament, to rescue us, with as little effusion as possible of Christian blood, from the imminent dangers of popery and slavery.

“ And we do hereby declare, that we will with our utmost endeavours, assist his highness in the obtaining such a parliament with all speed, wherein our laws, our liberties and properties may be secured, the church of England in particular, with a due liberty to Protestant dissenters, and, in general, the Protestant religion and interest over the whole world may be supported and encouraged, to the glory of God, the happiness of the established government in these kingdoms, and the advantage of all princes and states in Christendom, that may be herein concerned.

“ In the mean time, we will endeavour to preserve, as much as in us lies, the peace and security of these great and populous cities of London and Westminster, and the parts adjacent, by taking care to disarm all Papists, and secure all Jesuits and Romish priests who may be found in and about the same.

“ And if there be any thing more to be performed by us, for promoting his highness's generous intentions for the public good, we shall be ready to do it, as occasion shall require.”

On the day that the above declaration was signed, the lord mayor, aldermen and common council, drew up the following address, which was sent to his highness by a deputation of four aldermen and eight commoners:

“ We, taking into consideration your highness's fervent zeal for the Protestant religion, manifested to the world in your many hazardous enterprizes, wherein it hath pleased Almighty God to bless you with miraculous success, do render our deepest thanks to the Divine Majesty for the same, and beg leave to present our most humble thanks to your highness, particularly for your appearing in arms in this kingdom, to carry on and perfect your glorious designs to rescue these kingdoms from slavery and Popery, and
in

in a free parliament to establish the religion and the laws and liberties of these kingdoms upon a sure and lasting foundation.

“ We have hitherto looked for some remedy for those oppressions and imminent dangers, which we, together with our Protestant fellow-subjects, laboured under, from his majesty's concessions and concurrences with your highness's just and pious purpose expressed in your gracious declaration. But herein finding ourselves finally disappointed by his majesty's withdrawing himself, we presume to make your highness our refuge, and do, in the name of this capital city, implore your highness's protection; and most humbly beseech your highness to repair to this city, where your highness will be received with universal joy and satisfaction.”

The Prince of Orange emulated by the countenance and protection which he received from all quarters, profited by the advantage that had been providentially afforded to promote the safety and establish the freedom of the kingdom, and arrived at Windsor, in his way to London, to settle a mode of government.

But the prince having reassembled the forces which had been disbanded on the abdication of James, found himself in want of money to discharge their arrears. He therefore applied to the lord mayor and magistracy of London, for a loan of 200,000*l.* for six months; the citizens cheerfully voted the money, and Mr. Alderman Dashwood, afterwards lord mayor, subscribed no less than 60,000*l.*

His highness and his consort, after the various preliminaries had passed of offering and accepting the royal dignities, were solemnly crowned at Westminster on the 11th of April 1689, by the titles of William III. and Mary II. The first step taken by the king, after having been invested with supreme authority, was reformation at court, and rewarding such as had been instrumental in forwarding a Bloodless Revolution.

As, however, the abdicated James could not easily brook the loss of a crown which his misconduct had urged, he con-

trived every means that was possible to reinstate himself in the possession of the supremacy he had so basely maintained and so meanly relinquished; for this purpose, with the assistance of the French monarch, Louis XIV. he endeavoured to spirit up dissensions in Ireland. This conduct produced a declaration of war against France, and stronger tokens of regard towards the existing government. William, whose support depended on the affection of his people, laid several intercepted letters, containing suggestions of the blackest purposes, before parliament, and also communicated their contents to the citizens; they, in return, gave him the most unfeigned assurances of their zeal in supporting him, as well as all his measures for the public good. He was invited into the city, where himself, his family, and his court, were received with unbounded acclamations, and every testimony of satisfaction was demonstrated which it was possible to be expressed towards a sovereign who reigned in the hearts of an united and free people.

To evince that such zealous loyalty was deserving adequate consideration; in the ensuing parliament, which met on the 20th of March 1690, the city received its due reward, by a fresh assurance of his majesty's great attention to the rights of the corporation; he signed an act declaring the proceedings of the former reigns on the *2wo Warranto*, illegal and arbitrary. Every judgment given and recorded for seizing the franchises of the city were, by this national record, reversed and made void. The mayor, commonalty and citizens of London, were declared to remain for ever a body corporate and politic. They were to have and enjoy all their rights and charters; and all charters, letters patents, &c. concerning any of the liberties, lands and tenements, rights, titles, &c. made since the said judgment, by the late kings Charles and James, were thereby declared void.

As this is the last confirmation of the rights and privileges of the citizens of London, we preserve a copy of the instrument:

“ *An*

“ An act for reversing the judgment in a Quo Warranto, against the city of London, and for restoring the same to its ancient rights and privileges. Anno 2. W. M. Sess. 1.

“ Whereas a judgment was given in the court of King’s Bench in or about Trinity term, in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of the late king Charles the Second, upon an information in the nature of a *Quo Warranto*, exhibited in the said court against the mayor, and commonalty, and citizens of London, that the liberty, privilege, and franchise of the said mayor, and commonalty, and citizens, being a body politick and corporate, should be seized into the king’s hands as forfeited: and forasmuch as the said judgment, and the proceedings thereupon, is and were illegal and arbitrary; and for that the restoring of the said mayor, and commonalty, and citizens, to their ancient liberties, of which they had been deprived, tends very much to the peace and good settlement of this kingdom:

“ 2. Be it declared and enacted by the king and queen’s most excellent majesties, and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by authority of the same, that the said judgment given in the said court of King’s Bench in Trinity term, in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of the said king Charles the Second, or in any other term; and all and every other judgment given or recorded in the said court, for the seizing into the said late king’s hand, the liberty, privilege, or franchise of the mayor, and commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, of being themselves a body corporate and politick, by the name of the mayor, and commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, and by that name, to plead, and be impleaded, and to answer, and to be answered, or in what manner, or words soever such judgment was enter’d, is, shall be, and are hereby revers’d, annulled, and made void, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, and that vacates be entered on the rolls of the said judgment, for the vacating and reversal of the same accordingly.

“ 3. And be it further declared and enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the mayor and commonalty, and citizens

tizens of the city of London, shall and may for ever hereafter remain, continue, and be, and prescribe to be a body corporate and politick, *in re, facto, & nomine*, by the name of mayor, and commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, and by that name, and all, and every other name and names of incorporation, by which they at any time before the said judgment were incorporated, to sue, plead, and be impleaded, and to answer, and be answered, without any seizure, or fore-judger, of the said franchise, liberty, and privilege, or being thereof excluded and ousted, for or upon any pretence, of any forfeiture, or misdemeanour, at any time heretofore or hereafter to be done, committed, or suffered; and the said mayor, and commonalty, and citizens of the said city, shall and may, as by law they ought, peaceably have and enjoy all and every their rights, gifts, charters, grants, liberties, privileges, franchises, customs, usages, constitutions, prescriptions, immunities, markets, duties, tolls, lands, tenements, estates, and hereditaments whatsoever, which they lawfully had, or had lawful right, title, or interest, of, in, or to, at the time of the recording or giving the said judgment, or at the time or times, of the said pretended forfeitures.

“ 4. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all charters, letters patents, and grants for incorporating the citizens, and commonalty of the said city, or any of them, and all charters, grants, letters patents, and commissions, touching or concerning any of their liberties of franchises, or the liberties, privileges, franchises, immunities, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, rights, titles, or estates of the mayor, and commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, made or granted to any person, or persons whatsoever, by the late king Charles the Second, since the said judgment given, or by the late king James the Second, be and are hereby declared and adjudged null and void, to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

“ 5. Provided nevertheless, that no recoveries, judgments, statutes, recognizances, inquisitions, indictments, presentments, informations, decrees, sentences, executions, nor
any

any complaints, process, or proceedings in law and equity, had, made, given, taken, or done, or depending, in the mayor's, or either of the sheriffs courts, or any other court, within the said city, or liberties thereof, since the said judgment given, shall be avoided for want, or defect, of any legal power in those, that acted as judges, justices, officers, or ministers of, in, or, as belonging to any of the said courts; but that all and every such recoveries, verdicts, judgments, and other things above mentioned, and the actings, doings, and proceedings thereupon, shall be of such and no other force, effect, and virtue, than as if such judges, justices, officers, and ministers, had acted by virtue of legal authority; and that no person, or persons, shall be in any wise prosecuted, sued, impeached, or molested, for any cause, or thing by him or them lawfully acted or done, in pursuance of any such charters, letters patents, grants, or commissions.

“ 6. Provided, that this act shall not extend to discharge any person or persons from any penalty, or penalties, or forfeitures by him, or them incurr'd, for not duly qualifying him or themselves to act on the said charters, letters patents, grants, or commissions.

“ 7. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all officers, and ministers of the said city, that rightfully held any office or place in the said city, or liberties thereof, or in the Borough of Southwark, at the time when the said judgment was given, are hereby confirmed, and shall have and enjoy the same as fully as they held them, at the time of the said judgment given, except such as have voluntarily surrendered any such office or place, or have been removed for any just cause; and that every person who, since the said judgment given, hath been chosen, admitted, and placed into any office or employment within the said city, upon the death, surrender, or removal, as aforesaid, of the former officers, shall be and is hereby confirmed in his said office or employment, and shall have and enjoy the same in as full and ample manner, as if he had been admitted or placed therein, according to the ancient customs of the said city.

“ 8. Provided

“ 8. Provided also, and be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all leases and grants of any of the lands, tenements, hereditaments, and other things, before the time of the said judgment given, belonging to the said mayor, and commonalty, and citizens, and usually leased or granted by them, made since the time of the said judgment given, by the said late king Charles the Second, or king James the Second, or by any person or persons taking upon them to be trusty for the said city, for the preservation or maintenance of the government, or publick offices for the said city, by or upon pretence of any grant or commission by their said late majesties king Charles the Second, and king James the Second, or either of them, such grants or leases, being made for just, good, and valuable considerations, and whereupon the old accustomed yearly rent, or more, hath been reserved, payable into the chambers of Bridge House, or any of the hospitals of the said city, shall be as good and valid for the terms and under the rents, payments, provisoes, conditions, covenants, and agreements therein respectively contained, against the mayor and commonalty, and citizens, and their successors, as if the same had been made by the mayor and commonalty, and citizens of the said city, under their common seal, and the said judgment had never been given, and not otherwise. And the said mayor and commonalty, and citizens and their successors, shall have the benefit and advantage of all rents, reservations, payments, conditions, covenants, clauses and agreements in every such grant or lease contained; and the like remedy for non-payment, breach, or non-observance thereof, as if the said grants or leases had been made by the said mayor and commonalty and citizens, and the said rents, payments, conditions, covenant, clauses, and agreements had been made payable, reserved, covenanted, or agreed to and with the said mayor and commonalty, and citizens.

“ 9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all judgments, decrees and sentences had or obtained by any person or persons, taking upon them to be trustees as aforesaid, for or concerning any lands, tenements, duties, tolls,

tolls, and interests whatsoever, of or belonging to the said mayor and commonalty, and citizens of the said city, shall stand and remain in force, and shall be prosecuted and executed by, and to and for the use of the said mayor, and commonalty, and citizens, as if the same had been obtained in the name of the said mayor and commonalty, and citizens, and that all persons, being natural born subjects or denizens, that have been admitted into the freedom of the said city since the judgment given, shall be free thereof, and have and enjoy the said freedom to all intents and purposes, as if they had been thereunto admitted before the said judgment.

“ 10. Provided always, that the present mayor, sheriffs, chamberlain, and common council of the said city, shall continue until a new election shall be made of such officers, and the persons elected, sworn into their respective offices, and that such election be made at the times hereafter mentioned; that is to say, the election of the mayor, and sheriffs, and chamberlain, shall be made on the 26th day of May 1690; and the election of the common council, shall be made on the 10th day of June 1690; and such persons, so elect, shall continue till the usual times of election of such offices, according to the ancient usage and custom of the said city, and from thence shall continue till the year ensuing.

“ 11. Provided nevertheless, and be it enacted, that the mayor, sheriffs, chamberlain, and common council, which were in being at the time, at the said judgment given, shall be and continue in those respective offices and places, till new elections be made of the like officers and common council, according to the ancient usage and custom of the said city.

“ 12. And be it further enacted, that all persons so to be restored and continued, shall be and are hereby required to take the oaths appointed by a certain act made in the first year of their majesties reign, intituled, “An act for abrogating the oaths of supremacy and allegiance, and appointing other oaths,” the next term after such restitution, under the penalties, forfeitures, disabilities, and incapacities in the said act provided and appointed

“ 13. And be it enacted that the mayor, sheriffs, and chamberlain, so to be elected, shall be sworn in the usual manner, on or before the 20th day of June next ensuing.

“ 14. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all and several of the companies and corporations of the said city, shall from henceforth stand and be incorporated by such name and names, and in such sort and manner, as they respectively were at the time of the said judgment given, and every of them are hereby restored to all and every the lands, tenements, hereditaments, rights, titles, estates, liberties, powers, privileges, precedencies, and immunities, which they lawfully had and enjoyed at the time of giving the said judgment; and that as well all surrenders, as charters, letters patents, and grants, for new incorporating any of the said companies, or touching or concerning any of their liberties, privileges or franchises, made or granted by the said late king James the Second, or by the said king Charles the Second, since the giving of the said judgment, shall be void, and are hereby declared null and void, to all intents and purposes whatsoever. Provided nevertheless, that no person or persons shall be in any wise prosecuted, sued, impeached, or molested, for any cause or thing by him or them lawfully acted, or done, in pursuance of any such letters patents, or grants.

“ 15. Provided also nevertheless, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all leases, terms and estates made or granted by any of the said companies since the giving of the said judgment, for just and valuable considerations, and whereupon the old accustomed yearly rents, or more, are reserved, shall stand, and be of the same force and effect, as if the same had been made or granted by the said several companies as hereby restored; and the said respective companies and their successors shall have the benefit and advantage of all rents, reservations, payments, conditions, covenants, clauses and agreements, in all and every such lease or grant contained, and the like remedy therefore, as if the same grants and leases had been made by the said respective companies as now restored, and the said rents,
payments,

payments, conditions, covenants, clauses, and agreements had been made payable, reserved, covenanted, and agreed to or with them respectively.

“ 16. Provided also, and be it further enacted, that all and every person and persons, who at any time since the said judgment have been admitted into the freedom of, or into the liveries of the said companies, according to the usages and customs of the said city, and their respective companies, shall be and enjoy all the rights and privileges of a freeman and liveryman, to all intents and purposes, as if they had been admitted before the said judgment.

“ 17. Provided always, and be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this present act of parliament shall be accepted, taken, and reputed to be a general public act of parliament; of which, all and every the judge and judges of this kingdom, in all courts, shall take notice on all occasions whatsoever, as if it were a public act of parliament relating to the whole kingdom; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding.”

The year 1691, was remarkable for several marks of the good understanding which continued to subsist betwixt the government and the city. The war in Ireland, which had been raised by the ex-monarch, with a view to re-establish himself, having been ended, by the bravery of the English forces under general Ginckle, who, in consequence had been created Earl of Athlone, the king paid a visit to his Dutch dominions, and thinking that the kingdom of England was in safety, appointed the queen regent during his absence; but the Popish faction, disappointed in their other endeavours at anarchy, took the opportunity of William's absence to to involve the capital and nation in fresh confusion. But threats of invasion by the French, contrary to the measures intended, had the effect of uniting in one great cause, the whole body of the nation. The citizens had previously raised nine thousand volunteer trained bands, completely armed and ready to march wherever her majesty should appoint. The lieutenancy of the city, now resolved to add

six regiments of auxiliaries, whilst the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council, voted by voluntary subscription, to raise a large regiment of horse, and one thousand dragoons, who were to be maintained at their expence for six months, or as long as occasion required. But the rumour of invasion, in this, as in other instances, proving mere French gasconade, the citizens were not put to a trial of their wonted courage; however, the city trained bands, amounting to ten thousand, marched in review, before the queen, in Hyde Park, in 1692, fully determined to repel every attack of despotism against their government, their religion, and their country.

This conduct was not expressed by mere words and parade, but, as a further demonstration of sincere attachment to the glorious Revolution, which had so happily taken place; for an act of common council was passed, by which the city voted an advance to the queen, amounting to two hundred thousand pounds.

But though all hearts were united in the cause of life, liberty, and property; several disputes arose in the corporation, concerning the mode of nomination, and the election of the magistracy. To make it necessary, therefore, that future differences should be avoided, it was enacted in common council, "that none but freemen, being householders, paying scot and bearing lot, and none other whatsoever, should have the right or privilege to nominate aldermen, and elect common council-men."

A cause was tried in the King's Bench, this year, upon the following circumstances: By the Statute of the nineteenth of Charles the Second, for rebuilding the city of London, it is enacted, "That no building or house shall be erected within the limits of the city, but such as shall be pursuant to the scántlings mentioned in the said act; and if any person shall do contrary, being convicted upon the oaths of two witnesses, then the house so built shall be deemed a common nuisance, &c." And it is further enacted, "That all differences arising between builders, concerning placing and

stopping up lights, shall be heard and determined by the alderman of the ward ; and if he is party, or cannot determine it, then by the mayor and court of aldermen."

Mr. Carter was possessed of a house in Three King Court, in Fenchurch Street, and Mr. Firmin, had a house contiguous ; there was a party-wall set between these houses by the city surveyor, and both had been built upwards of twenty years : but Mr. Carter insisting upon erecting a stable on a void piece of ground, hitherto without buildings, a complaint was made to the court of aldermen, who deputed two city surveyors, to view the premises ; upon whose report the court prohibited any further procedure, till the right should be determined.

Mr. Carter upon this moved a prohibition from the court of King's Bench to the court of aldermen, upon the allegation, " That they had no jurisdiction in this case : for their houses were built twenty years preceding, according to the rules of the act ; that the authority of that court was limited to the building of houses upon the foundations of those which were destroyed by the fire, and did not extend to such persons who built upon new foundations : so that the houses being built, their jurisdiction was determined ; it was temporary only, and ought not to be continued afterwards : the court was also of this opinion, and therefore inclined to grant the motion.

But upon re-hearing the suit on another day, the court observed, " that there might be a custom in the city to regulate lights, and for the uniformity of buildings, but not to determine mens rights."

The attorney-general however insisted, " That the city surveyors were officers as antient as any recorded in the books of the corporation ; that their oath was in the book of oaths, which was likewise a very antient book ; that these officers had in all times past been appointed to make particular reports to the court of aldermen, to which the parties concerned had always complied ; and that it would be very inconvenient if a prohibition should go contrary to such an antient custom.

It

It was therefore ordered, " That the plaintiff should declare upon a prohibition; and that the defendant might, if he saw cause, plead this custom, so that the court might be apprized of the matter." Nothing more of this business is mentioned in the law reports, we therefore conclude that Mr. Carter forbore any further proceedings against an ancient custom of the city.

A most important subject was discussed in 1694; and a scene of speculation and bribery disclosed, which created the greatest disgust, and brought down deserved punishment on the guilty.

During the corrupt reign of Charles II. when men of virtue and probity were constantly endangered either in life or estate, it had been a constant custom to maintain pensioners in the highest seats of government; and it was no wonderful thing for senators to sell their consciences for the most paltry considerations. It is upon record, that the enormous sum of 252,467*l.* of the public money had been squandered among these mercenaries in less than three years; and houses of corruption were kept constantly open even at the foot of Parliament Stairs. Packed majorities were the consequence; the ruin of the country succeeded; and a Revolution in the persons who composed the legislature was the only medium to restore the nation to its wonted vigour and tranquillity. The king, however, was a foreigner; and it could not be conceived that he was sufficiently acquainted with the jurisprudence of the country to attempt the more minute reforms, which the several branches of that jurisprudence required; it was a circumstance of remote import, that brought about, what probably might have remained much longer in the obscurity of corruption:

Some of the inhabitants of Royston, in Hertfordshire, having been very much distressed by exactions, and the various abuses of the officers and soldiery in the collecting subsistence money, caused a petition to be presented to the House of Commons; when, after the examination of all the parties, the house resolved, " That the officers and soldiers of the army demanding and exacting subsistence money, is
arbitrary

arbitrary and illegal, and a great violation of the rights and liberties of the subject."

The house followed up this resolution with the most prompt and effective measures; it was ordered, "That the Commissioners for taking and stating the Public Accounts, do lay before the house, their observations of the abuses and ill practices committed by the agents of the regiments of the army, and that Pauncefort, one of those agents, should forthwith lay before the house, a particular account of the monies received by him, and how he paid the same, and to whom; and what remained in his hands."

Upon bringing in his account, and being examined on January 28th, it was (upon the consideration and observations of the Commissioners for taking and stating the Public Accounts) resolved by the house, "That the said agent for neglecting to pay the subsistence money to the officers and soldiers that quartered at Royston, having monies in his hands to do the same, be taken into the custody of the serjeant at arms attending the house." And afterwards, upon the 12th of February, he being again examined, and refusing to answer to several questions, though required, upon pain of being proceeded against with the utmost rigour and severity, it was resolved, "That by his obstinate refusal to answer to a matter of fact, he had violated the privilege and contemned the authority of the house, and the fundamental constitution thereof, and for so doing he was committed prisoner to the Tower."

Mr. Edward Pauncefort being also summoned and examined upon the 16th of February, he was taken into the custody of the serjeant at arms, for contriving to cheat colonel Hastings's regiment of five hundred guineas, and for giving a bribe of two hundred guineas.

Mr. Henry Guy, a member of the house, the same day, was also committed to the Tower, for taking a bribe of two hundred guineas.

And upon the 7th of March, Mr. James Craggs (one of the contractors for the cloathing of the army) having refused to produce his books, and to be examined before the Commissioners

missioners for taking and stating the Public Accounts; and being called into the house, and persisting in his refusal, it was resolved, "That he be committed to the Tower, for refusing to produce his books of account, thereby obstructing the inquiry of the house into the disposal of the public monies."

The disclosure of such notorious abuses of the officers and their agents, urged the house to present an humble representation to the king, to lay before his majesty the grievance of raising money under pretence of subsistence, in which it was thus stated:

"This is in a great measure occasioned by the undue practices of some of the agents and officers, the particulars of which we beg leave to lay before your majesty, in order to the more effectual preventing the like miscarriages for the future.

1. "Some of the agents amongst other ill practices, have detained the money due to the soldiers, in their hands, and made use of it for their own advantage, instead of immediately applying it to the subsistence of the officers and soldiers to whom they were entrusted.

2. "Their intolerable exactions and great extortions upon the officers and soldiers for paying money by way of advance; their charging more for the discount of tallies than they actually paid; by which fraudulent imposing upon those who serve in your majesty's armies, it appeareth, that notwithstanding they have a greater pay than is given in any other part of the world, they are yet reduced to inconveniencies and extremities which ought not to be put upon those who venture their lives for the honor and safety of the nation.

3. "In particular, colonel Hastings hath compelled some officers of his regiment to take their cloaths from him at extravagant rates, by confining and threatening those who would not comply therewith, by which the authority that may be necessary to be lodged in the colonel over the inferior officers, in some cases is misapplied and extended so as to promote a private advantage of his own, without any regard to your majesty's service, or to discipline of the army.

4. "Colonel

4. "Colonel Hastings's agent hath presumed fraudulently to detain five hundred guineas out of a bounty given by your majesty to the officers of that regiment, under pretence of being given them as a bribe to obtain the same, to the dishonour of your majesty, and injury to the officers thereof; and hath taken two pence per pound out of the money due to the officers and soldiers, for which deduction there being no warrant, the colonel whose servant the agent is, is answerable.

5. "Colonel Hastings's agent hath refused or neglected to give an account of the pay due to the captains of his regiment and their companies, which tends apparently to the defrauding the officers and soldiers.

6. "Some of the agents assume to themselves the liberty of making great deductions, which since they know not how to justify, they endeavour to cover by putting them under the shelter of the uncertain head of Contingencies, which giveth them the better opportunity of hiding the frauds and abuses that would otherwise be more liable to be detected.

7. "Colonel Hastings hath discharged an ensign, by putting another into his room, contrary to the true discipline of an army, from which the colonels have no right to exempt themselves, to enlarge their own authority, to the prejudice of your majesty's service and of the officers who serve under them.

8. "Colonel Hastings hath taken money for the recommending to commands in his regiment, to the great discouragement of the officers who are to serve in your majesty's armies, who ought to be such as deserve their commands, and not such as pay for them.

"These things we most humbly represent to your majesty in confidence of having them redressed by your majesty's justice and wisdom."

To this representation his majesty answered :

"Gentlemen,

"I will consider your representation, and take all care possible to have the grievances redressed."

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This power, and the virtue of their proceedings, stimulated the house to pursue their investigation, when it was discovered that the Commissioners for Licensing Hackney-coaches, the East India company, and even some of the principal characters of the city of London, were not exempt from this species of corruption.

An universal murmur now took place, as though venality had overspread the nation; and that the court, the camp, the city, and even the parliament were infected. But the house of commons still persisting in its integrity, resolved to fathom the reigning iniquity, and appointed a committee of the following members, who were impowered to send for persons and papers.

Paul Foley, esquire,	Thomas Pelham, esquire,
Sir Richard Onslow,	Sir Samuel Bernardiston,
John Pollexfen, esquire,	Thomas Wharton, esquire,
Sir John Thompson,	and
Foote Onslow, esquire,	Francis Gwyn, esquire.

These gentlemen began their scrutiny by inspecting the books of the East India Company. This induced a discovery, that from the year 1688 to 1694 inclusive, no less a sum than 107,013*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* had been discharged for *Special Purposes!*

The business of the city had something more glaring, and therefore we are more particular in our detail; not that the magistracy were in fault for paying a price for an indulgence which was to be purchased; but that there should exist characters in the highest stations of life, who possessed venality so bare-faced, as to dispose of their consciences for such iniquitous considerations.

The corporation of London had, for many ages taken the guardianship of her orphan children, and their property, under protection. Whence this originated, history does not inform us; but the first mention we find of the Orphans Fund, is in the year 1391, at which time it must have been of some continuance, since two thousand marks were then borrowed out of it to purchase corn during a dearth. By public casualties, and the many misfortunes lately suffered, the

the city was at this time, indebted to her orphans and other creditors, in the sum of 747,500*l.* a sum not likely to be discharged without the authority of a national act, *which had several times been solicited in vain*; for the bills brought into parliament for that purpose *were always neglected*. The citizens, however, in order to obtain their wishes, and *to relieve the distresses of the orphans*, thought no method likely to be more effectual, than to engage some of the members to do that *for interest, which they could not be prevailed on to do from principles of justice!* A business so notoriously and cruelly infamous, called forth the severest strictures, and the following statement fully discovered the scandalous practices which had been used to injure the city, already so much distressed.

“ The Report of the Committee, appointed, Jovis, Septimo Martii, 1694, to inspect the Chamberlain of London’s Books, and that they have Power to send for Persons and Papers.

“ Your committee found an order of the common council for the city of London, dated the 24th of January, 1693, which nominated and appointed Sir Thomas Stamp, Sir Francis Child, Sir James Houblon, and Sir William Hedges, knights and aldermen; Sir H. Furnace, knight, Mr. Deputy Ayres, Mr. Gilbert Heathcott, Mr. John Johnson, colonel Thomas Cuthbert, Mr. Thomas Cuddon, Mr. John Harvey, and Mr. D. Dorville, commoners, or any two of the said aldermen, and four of the said commoners, to be a committee to consider of ways and means for satisfying the debts due to the orphans of this city, and to solicit the parliament for a bill for that purpose, in which it is ordered, “ That Mr. Chamberlain do from time to time, issue out and pay all such sums of money *as are required* by and necessary for the said committee, for promoting the said service; and the members who serve for this city in parliament, are desired to be assisting to the said committee, as there shall be occasion; and Mr. Borrett, the city solicitor, is to attend the said committee.

“ Your committee found an order made by the said committee, dated the 12th day of February, 1693, reciting the

said order of common council; and ordered that Mr. Chamberlain do pay to the honourable Sir John Trevor, knt. Speaker of the Honourable House of Commons, the sum of ONE THOUSAND GUINEAS, as soon as a bill be passed into an act of parliament for satisfying the debts of the orphans and other creditors of the said city: which order was subscribed by all the said committee appointed by common council, except Sir James Houblon and Mr. deputy Ayres, and on the back of the said order, was this indorsement, viz.

“ The within mentioned one thousand guineas, were delivered and paid unto the honorable Sir John Trevor, this 22d day of June, 1694, in the presence of

“ Sir R. CLAYTON, Sir J. HOUBLON,

“ Which at 22s. exchange, comes to 1100l.”

“ In the Chamberlain’s account of the cash, the entry is thus:

“ Paid the 22d June, 1694, by order of the committee (appointed by order of the common council, to consider of ways and means for satisfying the debts due to the orphans and other creditors of the city, and to solicit the parliament for a bill to that purpose) dated the 12th of February last, one thousand guineas being paid to the honorable Sir John Trevor, knt. Speaker of the Honorable House of Commons, pursuant to the said order, which at twenty-two shillings exchange, is one thousand one hundred pounds*.”

The

* The evidence of Mr. Dorville, before the committee of the house, stated, “ That he had subscribed the order of the city committee; and whilst he was attending in the lobby of the house of commons, on account of the orphans, Mr. George Finch, a merchant, told him, “ If there were not some guineas given, *that bill would not go on*;” and added, “ that two thousand guineas were necessary to give to the Speaker.”

Sir James Houblon had refused to sign the order of the city committee twice, as a thing which he conceived to be abhorrent; but on Sir Robert Clayton’s request, he went to his house, where he found the Chamberlain, when they all together, went to the Speaker, to give him thanks for the pains he had taken in forwarding the Orphan’s bill. And as soon as Sir Robert and himself had paid their compliments, the Chamberlain pulled out a note or bill, which he delivered to the Speaker; Sir

James

The consequence of these reports was, that the house of commons came to several resolutions; among others were the following:

“ That Sir John Trevor, Speaker of this house, receiving a gratuity of One Thousand Guineas from the city of London, after passing of the Orphan’s bill, is guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour.”

After this, Sir John Trevor, absenting himself, the house elected Paul Foley, esquire, Speaker, in his room.

It was also further resolved, “ That Sir John Trevor, late Speaker, being guilty, &c. be expelled this house.”

Mr. Hungerford was expelled at the same time; and Sir Thomas Cooke being sent to the Tower, an act passed to oblige him to account for monies belonging to the East India Company*.

These measures were followed up by various impeachments, which being irrelevant, are not detailed: but we cannot avoid relating some of the delays which had been resorted to, till the golden *summum bonum* to the Speaker, &c. had removed all difficulties in the future expedition of the bill.

On the 27th of November, 1691, the lord mayor, &c. presented a petition to the House of Commons, praying leave

James was not acquainted with the contents of the note, till the Chamberlain on their return home, told him it was an order for *one thousand one hundred pounds*, which the Speaker sent for within two days after, when it was paid and acknowledged.

Some curious items for drawing and altering the Orphan’s bill, and the petitions and orders relating to it, are worthy of observation:

		£.	s.	d.
February 19th.	Paid Mr. Solicitor-general, for his advice	5	5	0
12th.	— Mr. Harecourt, by order	-	-	5 5 0
March 23d.	— Mr. Hungerford, chairman of the grand committee, for his pains and service	-	-	21 0 0
	— Mr. Joddrell, as by his bill	-	-	60 9 6

* These instruments of depravity were so confident in their measures of plunder, as to recommend a present of fifty thousand pounds to the king, if he would so far waive his prerogative, that an act might be passed for settling the affairs of the East India company; but were informed—“ that the king would not meddle in such matters!”

to

to bring in a bill "for raising a fund for an annual payment to be made in lieu of the debts to the orphans." Leave being given, and the bill presented and read, *it was ordered to lie on the table*; and after being delayed from Friday to Wednesday, and *vice versa*, till the ensuing February, was finally *disposed of*. The progress and disappointment were similar in 1692; but the next year exhibited a species of finesse that plainly unravelled the mystery. The bill had passed on in its usual dull routine, from November to January, when the city took an *effectual method* to obtain this object, by appointing a committee; this committee ordered the chamberlain to issue and pay out such sums as were *required*, and necessary for promoting their suit. But the city *ways and means* not keeping pace with those of their superiors, the bill was put off from Saturday till Friday, Tuesday, and thence till the ensuing Saturday; but when another petition of the distressed orphans was presented on Monday, "praying that *some expedient* might be found for their relief," the Speaker with unusual alacrity, after at least an hundred disappointments, on the following Thursday, *moved a committee of the whole house, to take into consideration the petition of the lord mayor, &c.* The motion and report were made in forty-eight hours, and in less than four weeks from the first application, the prayer of the petition was granted, and the bill was passed*.

The magistracy were fortunately no otherwise sufferers in this transaction; the act passed, and could not with propriety be annulled; it was provided, that "all the estates of the city (except those belonging to the hospitals and London Bridge) were charged with raising the annual sum of eight thousand pounds, clear of all deductions, for settling a perpetual fund for paying four pounds *per annum* interest, for every one hundred pounds due from the city to the said creditors. It was also enacted, that the profits arising from the several aqueducts belonging to the city, should be applied to-

* The *expedient* mentioned above, was contained in the Chamberlain's memorandum, as before stated.

wards the payment of the said interest : that the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council might raise two thousand pounds *per annum* by equal assessments upon the personal estates of the citizens : that the six thousand pounds *per annum*, paid by the lighters of the convex lamps, should be applied in the same manner : that every apprentice, at his binding, should pay two shillings and six pence ; and every person made free, five shillings, towards the said fund : that five shillings be paid for every ton of wine, and four pence extraordinary metage for every chaldron of coals in the port of London, to the said fund : and that after the 29th of September, 1700, the said four pence *per* chaldron should be raised to six pence, or, if weighable, to six pence *per* ton, for the term of fifty years."

About this time, the hawkers and pedlars interfered with the retail trade of the city, and the corporation thought the suppression of them a matter deserving attention ; the consequence was, an act of common council, by which it was ordained, " That no person should presume to sell any goods or merchandize in any public place within the city, or liberties thereof, except in open markets and fairs, on the penalty of forty shillings. That all citizens buying goods of such persons, should forfeit the like sum : and that every citizen who should suffer hawkers or pedlars to expose their goods to sale in their respective houses, should forfeit the sum of forty shillings for each offence."

The hawkers and pedlars, in order to evade this act, carried their goods to the public markets ; which occasioned another act of common council, which declared, " That no person or persons whatever, whether free or not free of the city, shall sell or expose to sale in the public markets, or any ground belonging to them, within the city or liberties, any mercery wares, lace or linen, grocery or confectionary wares, glass or earthen wares, toys or any such like commodities, or merchandizes, which are sold in open shops or warehouses of the freemen of this city, and liberties thereof, upon pain to forfeit and pay, for every such offence, the sum of three pounds, with costs of suit, if prosecuted within

fourteen days, in the name of the chamberlain, in the lord mayor's court; one moiety of which to be converted to the use of Saint Thomas's Hospital, and the other to the prosecutor."

This year is memorable for the establishment of the bank of England.

In the year 1695, the apothecaries of the city of London were exempted from the offices of constable, scavenger, overseer of the poor, and from other parish, ward, and leet offices, and of and from serving upon any juries or inquests.

The discontent of the citizens concerning the mode of election, not having subsided, it was necessary to resort to some legal provisions, by which future inconveniences might be avoided; for this purpose, by an act of common council, on the twenty-first of June, it was declared, "That the right for assembling common halls for the election of lord mayor, sheriffs, and other public officers for the city, is and ought to be in the lord mayor for the time being; that the right of taking a poll and scrutiny, and of adjourning the hall from time to time, till the same shall be concluded, shall be in the sheriffs: but that if the sheriffs disagree, so as to impede the completing of a poll or scrutiny, and refuse to observe the orders sent to them on that occasion by the lord mayor, to put an end to the difference, his lordship may proceed himself in granting and taking the poll and scrutiny, and in adjourning the hall, until the election shall be finally determined.

The year 1696 was remarkable for the redress against farmers of markets.

The market people having exhibited a complaint to the lord mayor and common council against the farmers of the city markets for various abuses committed by them, a committee appointed to enquire into the cause of that complaint did on the 29th of July report, "that the farmers of Leadenhall, Stocks, Honey Lane, and Newgate markets, were guilty of arbitrary and extravagant proceedings, whereby they had extorted an annual rent of 10,896*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* per ann. for stalls and fines, amounting to 2194*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* from

from the present tenants, and thereby had forfeited their leases. And divers suits being, by virtue of this report, commenced against the farmers, the court of King's Bench awarded the case to the arbitration of Sir Nathan Wright and Sir Bartholomew Shower, serjeants at law, who awarded, "that the said farmers should return the several sums of money unjustly extorted by them, and that for the future every thing to remain according to the regulation made by the common council."

A measure very beneficial to the city occurred in the year 1697. From time immemorial it had been customary to grant the privilege of sanctuary to religious foundations, by which it was held sacrilegious to seize any one who had sought refuge in these monastic precincts; those however who applied for this refuge usually gave up their goods and chattels into the possession of the abbot or other superior, to whom they likewise confessed that their intentions were not fraudulent, and that the steps then taken were only to gain time with their creditors, &c. that such means should be used as might be advantageous to all parties. However humane this privilege might have been in the first instance, it had become a subterfuge for those whose intentions were dishonest, and whose practices consisted in fraud; the places which had been considered merely as protections for the necessitous, became receptacles for lawless debtors, who, to the great prejudice of the community, took refuge, and defended themselves against all justice and public authority. These inconveniencies were become so enormous as to attract the attention of government; to accomplish reformation against such nuisances, the parliament passed an act, "For the more effectual relief of creditors in cases of escapes, and for preventing abuses in prisons and pretended privileged places."

By this act the following places of supposed privilege were suppressed, viz. that in the Minories; those in and near Fleet Street, as Salisbury Court, White Friars, Ram Alley, and Mitre Court;—in Holborn, Fullwood's Rents, and Baldwin's Gardens in Gray's Inn Lane;—the Savoy in

the Strand ;--in Southwark, Montague Close, Deadman's Place, the Clink, and the Mint. The last place, however, (the Mint) was afterwards suffered to spring up again in a more violent manner than before the passing of this act ; nor was it finally suppressed till the reign of king George the First.

A very useful regulation also passed, respecting the Cloth market at Blackwell Hall ; by which it was enacted, " That the public market of Blackwell Hall shall be held every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, from eight to twelve in the forenoon, and from two to five in the afternoon, except on days of humiliation and thanksgiving ; and the keepers not to admit buying or selling of any woollen cloth at the said hall upon any other days or hours than aforesaid, upon the penalty of 100*l*."

On the 5th of January 1698, through the carelessness of a laundress, the greatest part of Whitehall Palace was destroyed by fire ; the whole body of the principal fabric, the council chamber, and several adjoining offices, were entirely consumed ; and it was with the greatest difficulty that the Banqueting House escaped the conflagration.

The public were benefited in the ensuing year by an act of parliament, which had constituted the market at Billingsgate to be an open and free place of sale for fish, six days in the week, and on Sundays for mackarel, to be sold before and after divine service. It was also enacted,

" That all persons buying any fish in the said market, may sell the same again in any other market or place within London, or elsewhere, by retail, being sound and wholesome fish : except that none but fishmongers shall sell in public or fixed shops or houses.

" And that no person shall employ or be employed by any other person, in buying at Billingsgate, any quantity of fish to be divided by lots or in shares, amongst any fishmongers or others, to be afterwards sold by retail or otherwise ; nor shall any fishmonger engross, or buy in the said market any quantity of fish but what shall be for his own
sale

sale or use ; and not for any fishmonger to sell again, under penalty of 20*l*. for each offence ; one moiety to the poor of the parish, the other to the prosecutor."

This was the last public act for the benefit of the city, in King William's reign. This monarch died on the 8th of March 1702, in consequence of a fall from his horse. His character has been variously represented ; but it cannot be unjust to allow him great vigour of mind, firmness of temper, and intrepidity of spirit. The days of party respecting the pretensions of William and James are now past ; and though posterity may justly blame the nephew and son-in-law for dethroning his predecessor, England was certainly under the greatest obligation to William, for his assistance in her struggle for civil and religious liberty, as well as for establishing on her throne a Protestant succession of princes.

The Princess of Denmark, only surviving daughter of James II. being the next Protestant heir to the crown, succeeded William, by the title of Queen Anne. During the last reign she had suffered many persecutions from the king, her brother-in-law, who, it must be confessed, was of a morose, selfish disposition ; so much so, as even to treat this princess with personal incivility. Had Anne been urged by a similar disposition she would have deviated from the measures he had pursued against the intrigues of Louis XIV. : but possessing a magnanimity to which most of her family were strangers, she repelled her own feelings ; and considering only the good of her people, resolved to fulfil William's engagements with her allies ; she, however, thought it prudent to employ the Earl of Marlborough, who, in consequence of the late king's jealousy, had been imprisoned on a suspicion of Jacobitism, as her general in prosecuting the campaigns she meditated against the enemy of her kingdoms and of Europe. That her choice was prudent, the event fully declared ; for though no advantages were gained to finance, the British name was gloriously resounded to every quarter of the globe.

In the second year of her reign, November 16, 1703, a most dreadful storm of wind made great havock in the city

and suburbs. It began about ten o'clock at night, and continued to rage with the greatest violence till about seven in the morning, when it gradually abated. Upwards of two thousand stacks of chimnies were blown down; the lead on the tops of several churches was rolled up like skins of parchment; at Westminster Abbey, Christ's Hospital, St. Andrew's, Holborn, and many other places, it was carried off from the buildings. The roof of the guard room at Whitehall was carried entirely away. Two new built turrets on the church of St. Mary Aldermary, one of the spires of St. Saviour's, Southwark, and the four pinnacles at St. Michael's, Crooked Lane, were entirely blown down; the vanes and spindles of weathercocks in many other places were bent; several houses near Moorfields were levelled with the ground; as were about twenty other whole houses in the out-parts, with a great number of brick walls, and the gable ends of houses out of number. Twenty-one persons were killed by the fall of the buildings; and about two hundred greatly maimed in the ruins, besides those drowned in the river. The loss sustained by the city of London alone, was estimated at two millions. The damage at sea, however, far exceeded that by land; for, in that dreadful night, twelve men of war were lost, and upwards of eighteen hundred men perished; besides the loss of a great number of merchant ships, computed at a much greater value. All the ships in the river (four excepted) were driven from their moorings, and thrown on shore, between Shadwell and Limehouse, in the greatest confusion. Upwards of four hundred wherries were entirely dashed to pieces; above sixty barges were found driven foul of London Bridge; and as many more sunk or staved between the bridge and Hammersmith. The prospect on the river, as well as on land, afforded a sight equally dismal; and had not the height of the storm happened at full flood of a spring tide, the damage might have been much more considerable.

In consequence of the great destruction made among the buildings by this storm, the price of tiles was advanced from
one

one guinea to six pounds per thousand, and pantiles from fifty shillings to ten pounds. Bricklayer's labour was not to be procured for less than five shillings per day. The expences of repairs were so exorbitant, as to cause a general neglect both in landlords and tenants, and a great number of houses were for a considerable time exposed to the inclemency of the weather. Those who found it absolutely necessary to cover in their houses, made use of sail-cloth, tarpaulins or wood, as temporary expedients, till the time for making tiles came round, and the extravagant price of them was abated.

The parliament being at this time sitting, the House of Commons addressed the queen on the melancholy occasion, and promised to assist her in repalring the losses of the navy, by building such a number of other capital ships as her majesty should think necessary; and, in a few days after, she issued a proclamation for a general fast, which was properly observed throughout England on the 19th of January 1704.

An act of common council was passed this year, on the 16th of June, for better regulating the nightly watch. After repealing all former acts it was provided, "That each ward should provide a number of strong, able-bodied men; and that the deputy and common council of every ward should have power to oblige every person occupying any house, shop, or warehouse, either to watch in person, or to pay for an able-bodied man, to be appointed thereto by the said deputy and common councilmen; and that the said watchmen should be provided with lanthorns and candles, and be well and sufficiently armed with halberts. That one constable in each ward, and the aforesaid number of watchmen so provided and armed, should watch every night in each ward respectively, from nine in the evening till seven in the morning, from Michaelmas to the first of April; and from ten till five from the first of April to Michaelmas." The total number of watchmen appointed, by this act, in different wards amounted to five hundred and eighty-three.

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The years 1705 and 1706 were distinguished by the glorious achievements of the great Duke of Marlborough, against the French; on these, as well as on former occasions, the royal family attended thanksgiving services at St. Paul's cathedral; the colours taken by the duke at the battle of Ramillies were presented by the queen to the city; and the victorious duke, with a great number of the principal nobility, were entertained in a magnificent manner by the lord mayor and aldermen at Vintner's Hall.

On the first of May 1707 the articles of Union with Scotland were confirmed. The events of this year was also productive of a public act, which has extended its force to the present period.

The city had suffered so much by fires, occasioned, as supposed, by the carelessness of servants, that the common council ordered the following resolution to be sent to every house within the city and liberties of London.

" Punishment of Servants occasioning Fires.

" Whereas divers fires often happen by the negligence and carelessness of servants; be it therefore enacted, that if any menial or other servant or servants, through negligence or carelessness, shall fire or cause to be fired any dwelling house, or outhouse or houses, such servant or servants, being therefore lawfully convicted by the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, made before two or more of her majesty's justices of the peace, shall forfeit and pay the sum of 100*l.* unto the churchwardens where the fire shall happen, to be distributed amongst the sufferers by such fire, in such proportions as to the said churchwardens shall seem just; and in default of payment of the said 100*l.* to be sent to the house of correction, to be kept eighteen months to hard labour.

" And it was at the same time enacted by parliament, that the churchwardens of each parish within the bills of mortality should be empowered, at the charge of their respective parishes, to fix upon the several main water pipes in the streets stop blocks, or fire cocks, and to provide a large

large and a hand engine, with a leathern pipe, and socket to screw upon the fire cock : and that all party walls for the future should be entirely of brick or stone, except the houses on London Bridge."

But this year was also a season of grief to the whole nation, occasioned by the loss of George, Prince of Denmark, the queen's husband. This prince had been created Duke of Cumberland, lord high admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, generalissimo of all her majesty's forces both by sea and land, and warden of the Cinque Ports : he interfered but little in business ; lived respected ; and died lamented. His corpse was brought from Kensington to the Painted Chamber at Westminster, where it lay in state till the thirteenth of November, when it was privately interred in Henry the Seventh's Chapel, in Westminster Abbey.

A mark of peculiar benevolence distinguishes the year 1709. The malevolence of French persecution having pursued the Protestants of the Palatinate, they were stripped of all the conveniences of life by these marauding plunderers of Germany. Twelve thousand of that distressed people found their way to England, and arrived in the month of June in the neighbourhood of London, where they were at first subsisted by her majesty's benevolence ; then by the private charity of the nobility, &c. and, finally, the sum of 22,038*l.* was collected for them upon a brief issued to all parts of the kingdom. With this relief three thousand and upwards were sent to Ireland, six hundred to North and South Carolina, and three thousand five hundred to New York ; where they were engaged in the cultivation of that vast continent of America.

London was involved in civil commotion this year, in consequence of the irritation of opposite parties, occasioned by a complaint laid before the house of commons, the result of two sermons* preached and published by the famous

* The first of these was preached before the judges at the summer assizes at Derby, on the 15th of August ; and the other before the lord mayor and aldermen, at St. Paul's, on the 5th of November. In the last

mous Dr. Sacheverel. This clergyman, a person of an overheated imagination, but narrow capacity, had taken every opportunity to vent his animosity against the Dissenters; and the sermons above-mentioned having afforded him an opportunity to vilify that body, he had made such assertions, as were thought by the house to have the most pernicious allusions, and, therefore, they were voted to be "malicious, scandalous, and seditious libels, highly reflecting on her majesty and government, the late happy Revolution, and the Protestant succession, as by law established; tending to alienate the affection of her majesty's subjects, and create jealousies and divisions amongst them;" and the Doctor was ordered to attend at the bar of the house.

When he appeared before the commons, he acknowledged himself the author of both the sermons, and declared that he had received encouragement from the lord mayor to print that, intituled, "The Perils of false Brethren in Church and State." Being ordered to withdraw, the lord mayor, Sir Samuel Garrard, was asked, "if he had commanded Doctor Sacheverel to print the sermon in question?" In answer, he declared, "that he never desired, ordered, or encouraged the printing of the libel." The house then ordered Sacheverel to be impeached at the bar of the House of Lords, in the names of all the Commons of England; appointed a committee to draw up articles against him; and commanded the usher of the black rod to take him into custody.

Three days after, the Doctor petitioned the house that he might be admitted to bail; but this indulgence was refused, as it was determined to carry on the prosecution with the utmost severity. The lords, however, thought proper

last he asserted the doctrine of non-resistance to government in the utmost extent; reflected with great warmth on the Act of Toleration, and said, "the church was violently attacked by her enemies, and indifferently defended by her pretended friends:" he used his utmost efforts to animate the people "to stand up for the church;" and which he added, "he sounded the trumpet and desired them to put on the whole armour of God." So highly was this sermon countenanced by the Tory party, that upwards of forty thousand were dispersed over the nation.

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to admit him to bail, and appointed the 27th of December for the trial.

This extraordinary cause engaged the attention of the whole kingdom ; it lasted a considerable time, during which all other business was suspended, and the queen herself was every day privately present. Conceiving that this prosecution was contrived by the Presbyterians, with an intent to overthrow the system of the church ; on the second day of the trial, the mob were exceedingly outrageous, and in the evening, broke all the windows of Mr. Daniel Burgess's meeting-house, in New Court, Carey Street, threatening destruction to all Dissenters. On the third day, after conducting Sacheverel to his lodgings in the Temple, they ran again to this meeting-house, and tearing down the pulpit, pews, benches, and all that was combustible, made a bonfire of them in Lincoln's-Inn Fields, shouting, " High-church and Sacheverel." To such a height had their fury risen, that could they have found Mr. Burgess, they meant certainly to have burnt him in his pulpit, in the midst of the pile.

Several other parties demolished the meeting-houses of Mr. Earl, in Hanover Street, Long Acre ; Mr. Bradbury's, in Nevill's Court, Fetter Lane ; Mr. Taylor's, Leather Lane ; Mr. Wright's, in Great Carter Lane, and Mr. Hamilton's, in St. John's Square, (now St. John's Church,) Clerkenwell. They also threatened to pull down the houses of the lord chancellor, and of all the other managers of the prosecution. The directors of the Bank being apprehensive of danger from these riotous proceedings, procured a guard from Whitehall, while other soldiers were directed to disperse the mob. The guard at St. James's was doubled ; the Westminster militia was kept in arms ; and one regiment of the London trained-bands remained on duty during the whole of the trial.

After very obstinate disputes, and virulent altercation, Sacheverel was at last found guilty of the charges exhibited against him, by a majority of seventeen voices, and sentence was passed on him on the twenty-first of March, by which

he was suspended from preaching during three years; his two sermons were ordered to be burnt before the Royal Exchange, by the hands of the common hangman.

This mild sentence afforded universal satisfaction; bonfires, illuminations, and the most extravagant marks of joy were exhibited not only in London, but in every part of the kingdom. Sacheverel having been, by this time, considered as a persecuted confessor for the rights of the established church*.

As soon as these tumultuous proceedings had subsided, it became a subject of consideration with the government, in consequence of the vast increase of inhabitants, to regulate the sale of bread, by which that part of the statute made in the reign of Henry III. concerning the assize of bread, was now repealed; and "power was given to the court of lord

* We cannot repress a ludicrous anecdote relating to this part of our subject; and it must convey its own apology, when understood that Dean Swift was concerned. After Sacheverel's noisy concerns had subsided, the ministry treated him with indifference and neglect; and upon the rectory of St. Andrew's, Holborn, being vacant, his solicitation to succeed to the living was slighted. Under these circumstances, he wrote to Swift, with whom he had a slender acquaintance, requesting him to intercede with government on his behalf. The Dean immediately carried his letter to Lord Bolingbroke, then secretary of state, who railed at Sacheverel; calling him a busy, intermeddling fellow, and an incendiary, who had set the kingdom in a flame which could not be extinguished, and therefore deserved censure instead of a reward." To which Swift replied, "True my Lord;—but let me tell you a short story. In a sea-fight, in the reign of Charles II. there was a very bloody engagement between the English and Dutch fleets, in the heat of which, a Scotch seaman was bit very severely by a louse in his neck, which he caught, and stooping down to crack it between his nails, many of the sailors near him had their heads taken off by a chain-shot from the enemy, which shattered their brains and blood about him. On this he had compassion on the poor louse, returned him to his place, and bid him live there at discretion; for, as he had saved his life, he was bound in gratitude to preserve his." The recital of this put Lord Bolingbroke into a fit of laughter, who, when it was over, said, "the louse shall have the living for your story;" and soon after Sacheverel was presented to it. *Supplement to Dean Swift's Works.*

mayor

mayor and aldermen of London, or to the lord mayor alone, by order of the said court, and to the mayor, bailiffs, aldermen, or other chief magistrates of other cities or corporations, or to two or more justices of the peace, in such places where there shall be no mayor, &c. to ascertain and appoint, within their respective jurisdictions, the assize and weight of all sorts of bread, according to the price which the grain, meal, or flour, of which such bread is made, shall bear in their respective public markets; making reasonable allowance to the bakers for their trouble. It was also enacted, that no bread shall be made for sale, but that distinguished by the names of *white*, *wheaten* and *household*; or such other sorts as shall be publicly licensed and allowed by the before-mentioned magistrates of London and other places. All bakers were likewise to mark their loaves in such manner as the said magistrates should direct."

This year seems to have been a period of activity and watchfulness. During the times when the city privileges were upheld by an uncertain tenure, several persons taking advantage of the tyranny of government, had found means, contrary to the laws and customs of the city, and to the great prejudice of the citizens, to exercise several manual operations and trades by retail; it was therefore enacted, by the common council, on the fourth of July, "That no person whatever, not being free of the city, shall, by any colour, way, or means whatever, directly or indirectly, by himself or any other, use, exercise, or occupy, any art, trade, mystery, manual occupation, or handicraft whatsoever, or keep any shop, room, or place whatsoever, inward or outward, for shew, sale, or putting to sale, of any wares or merchandize whatsoever, by way of retail, within the said city, or the liberties thereof, upon pain to forfeit five pounds. And that what freeman soever does set any person that is not free, on work, knowing and having notice given to him that such person, so by him to be set to work, is a foreigner, shall forfeit five pounds. And that the freeman that employs a foreigner to sell by retail, shall also forfeit five pounds for every offence."

It was, however, provided, "That nothing in this act should be construed to the prohibiting any citizen from keeping in his service any person under the age of twenty-one, upon trial to be bound apprentice, for any time not exceeding three months; nor to prohibit any citizen dealing in coarse heavy goods, from employing any yearly servant living with him, in the weighing, rummaging, lading or unloading such merchandize; or in any labour not concerning the art, skill, and mystery of the same."

A very curious circumstance occurred towards the latter end of this year, which caused a general alarm, in addition to the fears which the public at this time entertained concerning a projected invasion by the reputed son of James II. denominated the Pretender.

A general thanksgiving having been appointed to be kept on the seventh of November, for the successes of the allied armies, her majesty, instead of going, as usual, to St. Paul's, attended divine service in the Chapel Royal. Two days after which, a remarkable advertisement was published in the London Gazette, signed by Henry St. John, then secretary of state, importing, "that some evil-minded persons having unscrewed and taken away several iron bolts out of the great timbers of the west roof of the cathedral church of St. Paul, her majesty, for the better discovery of the offenders, was pleased to promise her most gracious pardon, and a reward of fifty pounds to any person concerned therein, who should discover his accomplices." This singular advertisement occasioned a report that a plot had been concerted for destroying the queen and the court, by the fall of the roof of St. Paul's on the thanksgiving day, when it was supposed her majesty would have gone thither; and this pretended plot, (which was called the Screw Plot,) the Tories were very industrious in charging upon the Whigs. It must, however, be observed, that the west roof of St. Paul's was not then quite finished; and, upon enquiry, it appeared that the missing of these iron pins was owing to the negligence of the workmen, who had supposed the timbers sufficiently secure.

It was found in the year 1711, by a statement laid before parliament, that the city and suburbs contained two hundred thousand persons more than could be accommodated with places of divine worship: the legislature therefore passed an act "for building fifty new churches in and near the populous cities of London and Westminster; to defray the expences of which, a duty of two shillings *per* chaldron, or ton, was laid on all coals that should be brought into the port of London."

That this act was intended for the construction of additional churches is evident; it has however been perverted to the repairs of, and the re-construction of churches which were out of repair. We cannot repress the sentiments of Salmon on this subject. The preamble sets forth, "That there were not churches sufficient for the people to worship God in; and that many of them were in a manner compelled to go to conventicles, or no where. It has been held," continues this writer, "no small degree of sacrilege to apply to profane uses, what has been once devoted to heaven, without some apparent necessity: but as posterity sometimes are of a different opinion from those that went before them, and looked upon those to be superstitious uses which their fathers deemed pious, the laity have sometimes, at a great distance of time, seized such lands as have been given to churchmen, under pretence of their being misapplied, or serving to promote bigotry and superstition. But that the legislature of any country should, within the space of twenty years, while the same religion, and the same modes of worship remained established by law, take part of the revenues designed for the building of temples, and apply it to secular purposes, is a conduct that the world was never acquainted with, till a set of pastors and politicians arose of different sentiments from all that went before!" Salmon's indignation arose, upon finding that part of the duty on coals, which was to have finished the new churches, was afterwards applied to the promotion of a lottery, which was held to be more beneficial to the state, than the former could be in promoting Divine worship.

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An act of parliament for licensing eight hundred hackney coaches, passed at this time, (which were to pay five shillings weekly,) and two hundred sedan chairs, (at ten shillings each yearly,) within the bills of mortality. The fares of each were thus settled: Coaches to go one mile and a half for one shilling, and two miles for one shilling and six pence.

The abuses in the distribution of coals still continued in such a degree, that the magistracy were compelled to resort to a scrupulous investigation of the impositions under which the citizens laboured; for this purpose, a committee had been appointed to enquire into the charges against the coal-meters. On the 16th of March, 1713, they made their report to the court of lord mayor and aldermen, in which, after reciting the right of the city to the said office, and several acts of common council for its regulation, made 24 Henry VI.—44 Elizabeth—18 James I. and in 1653, made this further declaration. “ We are therefore of opinion, that the said ancient order and method of the coal office ought to be observed and kept, and that it is incumbent on the alderman of Billingsgate ward, to see the same performed; and that as well the master-meters, as the said under-meters, are liable to be punished by suspension, removal or otherwise, as this court shall think fit: that the said master-meters have no right to employ what deputies or under-meters they please, but that it is the right of the lord mayor and aldermen to allow of the deputies or under-meters, and that no other ought to be employed but such as they allow: that the said deputies or under-meters ought not to be displaced, but upon a reasonable cause, and that upon application to the lord mayor and aldermen for that purpose; but the alderman of the said ward may suspend an under-meter, till the pleasure of this court is known therein: that the books of the coal office do concern the right of the inheritance of this city, and ought to be used and inspected by this court, as they shall find occasion, &c.: that no under-meter ought to begin to work in coals, before a cocket of permit has been issued from the lord mayor’s office, &c.” which report being read, it was approved of by the said court, and ordered

dered to be entered in the repertory. And it was thereupon ordered, "that the said master-meters do observe the antient method and usage of shipping their under-meters, according to their seniority; and that the under-meters do not take their fellow's labour out of their turns, upon pain of being suspended from their labour for so doing by the alderman or deputy of Billingsgate ward."

This was the last public act for the benefit of the city, during the remainder of this reign. The queen, perplexed by the intrigues of those who sought their own advantage, though the honour of their sovereign and country were sacrificed, sunk under the load of affliction which their unprincipled conduct had caused.

On the ninth of July, her majesty went to the house of peers, for the last time, and prorogued the parliament to the tenth of August. Her constitution was now entirely destroyed, the anxiety of her mind having completed the ruin of her health. The dissensions among her ministers had arisen to such a height, that they seemed to meet in council merely with a view of opposing each other. These confusions had such an effect on her spirits, that she was seized with a lethargic disorder. Every assistance that the art of healing could bestow was applied in vain; and her malady gained ground so fast, that the physicians despaired of her life.

As soon as this declaration was made known to the privy council, they assembled at the Cockpit, Whitehall, to deliberate on the most proper measures to be taken at this emergency. Their first consideration was, the security of the kingdom; and orders were immediately issued to the four regiments of horse and dragoons, quartered in the neighbouring counties, to march with all expedition into the neighbourhood of London. An embargo was laid upon all shipping, and directions given for equipping all the ships of war that were in a proper condition, for immediate service.

A letter was sent to the Elector of Brunswick, informing him of the dangerous condition of the queen's life, and desiring him to repair to Holland with all convenient speed, where

where a British squadron would attend to convoy him safe to England, in case of her majesty's decease. They also took particular care to secure the sea-ports, to overawe all the Jacobites in Scotland, and to prevent the friends of the Pretender from assembling in England.

While these precautions employed the care of the ministry, the queen, after having doted in a lethargic insensibility for thirty-six hours, paid the great debt of nature on the first of August, about seven o'clock in the morning, in the fiftieth year of her age, and thirteenth of her reign.

In Lyttleton's History of England, Anne is described "as an affectionate wife, a warm friend, an indulgent mistress, and a munificent patron. Her desertion of her father, though warmly reprehended by many, will be deemed by others a meritorious sacrifice of implicit duty to the demands of religion and patriotism. Many virtues adorn her private life. In her conjugal capacity, she was amiable and unblemished; as a mother, she combined indulgence with discretion; as a mistress, she was humane and benevolent; as a friend and a patroness, sincere, generous, and munificent." We forbear, for cogent reasons, speaking of her politically as a sovereign.

George Lewis, the eldest son of Ernest Augustus, Duke and Elector of Brunswick Lunenburgh, by the princess Sophia, youngest daughter of Frederick, Elector Palatine of the Rhine, and Elizabeth, eldest daughter of James I. succeeded to the throne of Great Britain, in virtue of an act of parliament, passed in the latter part of the reign of William III. limiting the succession of the crown, after the demise of that monarch, and queen Anne (without issue) to the princess Sophia, and the heirs of her body, being Protestants.

The maturity of this prince, who was fifty-four years of age when he succeeded; his sagacity and experience; the numerous alliances in his family; and the general peace which had lately been concluded among the hostile powers of Europe, contributed to establish his claim, and promised a prosperous reign. He possessed a different disposition from
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the Stuart family ; who were notorious for rejecting and forsaking the friends to whom they owed all their success. George I. on the contrary, made it a principle, whence he never departed, “ not to abandon his friends ; to administer impartial justice ; and, relying on the rectitude of his government, to entertain no shadow of fear.” His virtues, though not splendid, were firm ; no one could divert him from a sedulous application to his national concerns ; and no blame could be attached to his personal disposition for the general welfare of his extensive dominions, except that a partiality for the interests of his German connexions, too often superseded that which ought to have distinguished his government in the British realms.

His majesty, accompanied by his eldest son prince George, arrived in England, and made his public entry into London on the twentieth of September. He was received at St. Margaret’s Hill, by the lord mayor, aldermen, sheriffs, and officers of the city ; in whose name Sir Peter King, the recorder, made him a congratulatory speech ; and the king was saluted with every testimony of public satisfaction.

The lord mayor, aldermen, common council, and court of lieutenancy, in a few days after, went in grand procession to St. James’s, and presented the following address :

“ Pardon us, dread sovereign, if we want words to express that height of joy and satisfaction which so sensibly affects us, your most dutiful and loyal subjects, to see your majesty (attended by the prince) arrived in safety at this your royal palace.

“ We rest now secure of enjoying all the blessings that a wise and gracious prince can give to a willing and obedient people, and the continuance of them to posterity by a certain (though we hope a late) succession in your family.

“ We crave leave, therefore, most gracious sovereign, to renew our assurances of all that steady affection to your sacred person, and zeal for the support of your crown, which such a king may justly expect from the most loyal and faithful subjects.”

His majesty returned the following answer :

“ I take this address very kindly. I have lately been made sensible of what consequence the city of London is, and therefore shall be sure to take all their privileges and interests into my particular protection.”

The king and royal family accepted also an invitation into the city to dinner, on the ensuing lord mayor's day, attended by a numerous procession of nobility. Sir William Humphreys, the chief magistrate, having the honour to present the first glass of wine to his majesty, the king was pleased to order a patent to be passed for creating him a baronet ; and at the same time his majesty ordered 1,000*l.* to be paid to the sheriffs for the relief and discharge of poor people imprisoned for debt.

On the 5th of January, 1715, he went to the House of Peers, and dissolved the parliament; and a new one was appointed to meet on the seventeenth of March. The members chosen for the city of London were, Sir John Ward, Sir Thomas Scawen, Robert Heysham, and Peter Godfrey, esquires, to whom the citizens gave very particular instructions for their future conduct.

These instructions evinced the temper and political disposition of the metropolis, as well as the affection of the people for the house of Hanover, and their detestation of the conduct of the ministry during the late reign. Some of these instructions are bold and interesting : After insisting upon inquiries to be made concerning the promoters of a disgraceful peace, during a glorious war, and of a plan to bring in the Pretender ; the instructions thus proceed to enquire :

“ By whose advice and management the best branches of our trade were exchanged for chimeras, and the ruin of the whole endangered, by a vile treaty of commerce with France ?

“ By whose advice it was, that his now royal highness George prince of Wales, was denied the liberty to come and take his place in parliament, when the presence of one of the illustrious family of Hanover was so absolutely necessary to quiet the minds of the subjects, and to secure us from the just apprehensions we had of danger from the Pretender ?

“ By

“ By whose advice it was that his majesty’s minister, baron Schutz, was discharged the court, because he demanded a writ for the prince ?

“ By whose advice was Sir Patrick Lawless, the Pretender’s agent or envoy, entertained at court, at the same time ; and honourably conveyed beyond sea soon after it was complained of in parliament ?

“ By whose advice and management our holy church was in danger of being given up to Popery, our civil rights to tyranny, and the way prepared for the Pretender ?

“ By whose advice it was that the Jacobite clans in Scotland were armed and kept in pay, and the levies of men for the Pretender in Great Britain and Ireland, were so long connived at ?

“ By whose management it was, that the public affairs of the kingdom are brought under the greatest difficulties, as well in respect to our trade, and the interruption of our navigation, as of the great debts of the nation, which have been very much increased since the last war, as his majesty has been graciously pleased to inform us, in his proclamation for calling a new parliament ?

“ We also desire and expect, that you concur in demanding an account how the money raised by parliament, has been expended since the change of the ministry, in 1710 ?

“ That you not only concur in such enquiries, but also, in a parliamentary way, to bring such to justice, as shall be found guilty of those mismanagements ; this being a duty owing to ourselves, as well as our confederates ; and indispensably necessary for retrieving the honour of the nation, and restoring a due confidence and harmony betwixt us and our allies.

“ That you concur in making such laws as shall be thought necessary for the better security of the churches of England and Scotland, as severally by the laws established ; and for suppressing and preventing those seditious and groundless clamours of the church of England being in danger by his majesty’s administration.

“ That you concur in giving the king such sums as shall be thought necessary for enabling his majesty to defend the nation, to support and retrieve trade, and to keep the balance of Europe, which is threatened with a new war, by the intrigues of our common enemies.”

The conduct of the city in this instance, had such an effect, that the whole country followed the example ; and nothing seemed wanting to fix in the minds of the nation a regard for the reigning family.

But a storm from a different quarter was fomenting. The adherents to the ex-patriated family projected a plan in 1715, to subvert the government, and harrass the country by an invasion in favour of the Pretender.

The city, active with its support when the kingdom was threatened with danger, presented an address to his majesty, on this occasion, signed by the corporation, the principal merchants and traders, in which they assured him of “ their determined resolution to exert their utmost endeavours for the support of his person and government.”

The threatened invasion was converted into a rebellion in Scotland, through the machinations of the Earl of Mar, which was carried on during the time of a frost, so intensely severe, that the river Thames was frozen over during almost the space of three months. Booths were erected on the congealed river, for the sale of all kinds of commodities, and, on the nineteenth of Januray, 1716, two large oxen were roasted whole on the ice ; the vast quantities of snow which had fallen, at different times in the season, rendered the city almost impassable.

About this time, a dangerous conspiracy was discovered and defeated in England. Lieutenant-colonel Paul was imprisoned in the Gatehouse, for inlisting men in the service of the Pretender. The titular Duke of Powis was committed to the Tower : the Lords Lansdowne and Duplin were taken into custody : and a warrant was issued for apprehending the Earl of Jersey. The king, through the medium of secretary Stanhope, desired the consent of the lower house, to seize and detain Sir William Wyndham, Mr. Edward Harvey,

Harvey, of Combe, Mr. Thomas Forster, Mr. John Anstis, and Mr. Corbet Kynaston, who were members of the house, and suspected of favouring the invasion. The commons unanimously agreed to the proposal, and presented an address, intimating their approbation. Harvey and Anstis happening to be in town, were instantly secured: Mr. Forster, with the assistance of some Popish lords, created an insurrection in Northumberland: Sir John Packington was examined before the council: and nothing appearing against him, was honourably discharged: Mr. Kynaston absconded: Sir William Wyndham was seized at his own house in Somersetshire, by colonel Huske, and a messenger, who secured his papers: he found means, however, to escape, but being closely pursued, he thought proper to surrender himself, and, having been examined at the council board, was committed to the Tower.

The Jacobites were very numerous in the western counties, and began to make preparations for an insurrection. They had concealed some arms and artillery at Bath, and had formed a design to surprize Bristol; but the government, being informed of their proceedings, took such measures as effectually defeated all their projects. The conduct of the university of Oxford was extremely exceptionable on this occasion. They chose the earl of Arran their chancellor, instead of his brother the Duke of Ormond, who had just been attainted. They conferred the degree of doctor of laws on Sir John Everard, a notorious Non-juror. They even held consultations with several half-pay officers, Irish Papists, and other Jacobites, who had taken refuge in their city, and who were actually preparing to appear in arms: in consequence of which, Handyside's regiment was afterwards quartered in Oxford, to overawe the university*

General Carpenter having, however, been appointed to subdue the rebellion in Scotland; so well accomplished his purpose, that the rebels who had been made to believe that the Pretender was to head them in person, no sooner found

* Lyttleton's History of England.

that he had deserted them, and fled with his principal adherents, than they despised all order, and possessed of the fear naturally attendant on rebellion, retreated in the utmost confusion to the highlands. Such was the issue of a rebellion that proved fatal to many noble families; and which, instead of promoting the interest of the Stuart family, served only to strengthen the Protestant succession in the house of Hanover.

The rebel noblemen were brought to London, and tried; the Earl of Derwentwater and Viscount Kenmure were beheaded on Tower Hill, and their forfeited estates severally disposed of. That of the former nobleman was appropriated to the support of Greenwich Hospital.

Government prosecuted the other delinquents with the most unrelenting severity; this rigour was so excessive, that the majority of the people were highly offended: this the ministry fully considering, determined to establish their government beyond the power of opposition, by a step equally bold and unconstitutional; which was no less than bringing in a bill for enlarging the term of the continuance of parliaments. This, denominated the *Septennial Act*, ordained that the present and future parliaments were to continue seven years (unless sooner dissolved by the crown) instead of three, to which they were at that time limited by the Triennial Act passed in the reign of William the Third. The bill produced very warm and long debates in both houses: the true and zealous lovers of their country, whether Whigs or Tories, opposed it with all their power; and by their arguments proved the danger that might result from it beyond all contradiction. The ministry, however, sure of a majority, suffered their adversaries to exhaust their rhetoric; and when the question came to be finally put in the House of Lords, where it was first introduced, it was carried by a majority of sixty-nine against thirty-six. The majority in the Commons was two hundred and sixty-four against one hundred and twenty-one. The Septennial Bill having thus passed both houses, it soon after received the royal assent. Hence arose Septennial Parliaments.

Riots

Riots molested the city during the remainder of this year. His majesty had left England but a short time before the political uproar of party, which had so long divided the nation, broke out into fresh animosities; and the disorderly multitude, ever ready to go upon a wrong bias, followed the example of their superiors. The Whigs had formed themselves into societies, and met at different houses in the city and suburbs, distinguished by the name of Mug-houses, from the vessels they drank out of, and at these places of resort whiggish healths were constantly toasted. The most famous of these houses was in Salisbury Court, Fleet Street, which was rendered so by the following circumstance:

The company assembled having on some occasion given extraordinary demonstration of their hatred and animosity to the leading men of the opposite party, by malicious healths and reflections, the Tory mob on being informed of it were so incensed, that on the 20th of July they came and attacked the Mug-house, kept by one Read, with an intent to demolish it; but the company sending for a reinforcement from another Mug-house in Tavistock Street, discomfited the assailants.

Many however, returned, and kept lurking about the house the two following days. On the third Vaughan, formerly a Bridewell boy, instigated the mob to go to the Mug-house, and revenge the late affront. Thus spirited, they followed with loud huzzas of "High Church and Ormond, down with the Mug-house!" Read desired them to keep off, or he would fire among them; but this menace not being regarded, he discharged his piece, and killed Vaughan on the spot, for which he was afterwards tried and acquitted.

This circumstance increased the outrage, the windows were broken, the sign torn down, and the furniture of the house destroyed; such a tumult alarmed the magistracy, and the sheriffs caused the proclamation against riots to be read; to which no obedience being paid, a party of the guards was ordered, at whose appearance the mob dispersed: but not till five of the most active were taken, who being tried
and

and convicted, were executed before the house; which exemplary punishment effectually suppressed these tumultuous proceedings.

On the 2d of December 1716, a fire broke out in the French Protestants chapel in Spring Gardens, Charing Cross, which consumed that building, the library, and three adjacent houses. And on the 4th a most alarming fire broke out near Dick's Shore, Limehouse, which burnt down near two hundred houses.

Such a boisterous and troublesome year seemed unfit for internal regulation or improvement; but on the eighteenth of December the common council passed an act, in which, after having repealed all the former acts concerning lighting of the city of London, they enacted as follows:

“ That all housekeepers, whose house, door, gateway, or fronts lie next to any street, lane, or public passage or place of the said city, or liberties thereof, shall, in every dark night, that is, every night between the second night after each full moon, and the seventh night after each new moon, set or hang out one or more lights, with sufficient cotton wicks, that shall continue to burn from six o'clock at night till eleven o'clock of the same night, on penalty of one shilling. And that, under the like penalty, the occupiers of houses in any court, that faces any public place or passage, shall alternately hang or set such a light on the outside of such doors or gates as shall be next the said public place or passage: unless the party offending is not charged to the poor, and whose house shall not be of the rent of 10*l.* per annum. Penalties to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrants from the mayor.”

Some evil disposed persons at this period endeavoured to involve the corporation in a premunire for having neglected, on their coming into office, to subscribe the declaration against the solemn league and covenant, pursuant to act of parliament: to prevent the injury the malicious endeavours of their enemies intended, they addressed his majesty; and, after allowing the fact, alledged that such subscription had been very much disused. They alledged also, “ that

they had behaved themselves in their offices with all duty to his majesty, and prayed that his majesty would graciously please to give such directions and orders therein as should effectually quiet the minds of his petitioners, &c."

The king's answer was: "I am fully persuaded of your duty and affection to me and my government, and I take this application kindly, as it is a mark of your trust and confidence in me. I shall be glad not only for your sakes but my own, if any defects, which may touch the rights of my good subjects, are discovered in my time; since that will furnish me with means of giving you and all my people an indisputable proof of my tenderness for their privileges, and how unwilling I shall be to take advantage of their mistakes."

The transactions of the year 1717 are not of sufficient consequence to merit particular mention. On the 18th of June, a fire happened in the chambers of Mr. Bonithan, in Gray's Inn. When his chambers were in flames, he first stabbed himself, and then, leaping out of the window, died soon after. By this accident four sets of chambers were destroyed, and two damaged. This gentleman's father, Mr. Serjeant Bonithan, had shot himself a few years preceding. Another fire broke out on the sixth of August, in a pitch and tar warehouse at a place called Prince's Island, Wapping, which destroyed fourteen houses and damaged several others.

The commencement of the year 1718 was marked by proceeding against clubs and combinations of artificers. These dangerous associations, in consequence of the turbulent state of party dissention, had increased in an alarming manner. To check the innovations threatened, on the fourth of February a proclamation was published at the Royal Exchange, &c. "against unlawful clubs, combinations, &c. of woolcombers and weavers, who had formed themselves into lawless clubs and societies, and had illegally presumed to act as bodies corporate, by making and unlawfully conspiring to execute certain bye-laws or orders, whereby they pretended to determine who had a right to the

the trade; what and how many apprentices and journeymen each man should keep at once together, with the prices of all their manufactures, and the manner how and materials of which they should be wrought, and refused to work till they could oblige the masters to employ them for want of other hands."

The feuds in which the country was involved, had also possessed the corporate bodies throughout the realm; among these the city of London had been so far misled, as to appropriate part of the cash in the chamberlain's hands to serve election purposes. Upon this a complaint was made to the house of lords, stating, "that the cash of the chamber of London had from time to time been issued out to prosecute law-suits upon controverted elections." The lords appointed a committee to examine into the affair, who found "that since the 13th of November 1711 the city had paid on the said account for Langbourn Ward, Tower Ward, and Cheap Ward, the sum of 2827*l.* 10*s.* and that not one of the said suits, so ordered to be carried on by the common council, for which so great a sum of money had been expended, were ever determined in favour of the prosecutors."

The report being read, the house came to the following resolution: "Resolved, by the lords Spiritual and Temporal parliament assembled, that it is the opinion of this house, that the common councils of London having issued great sums of money out of the chamber of London in maintaining several suits of law between citizen and citizen, relating to controverted elections, they have abused their trust, and been guilty of great partiality, and of gross mismanagement of the city treasure, and a violation of the freedom of elections in the city."

On the 21st a bill was brought in at the petition of the inhabitants of Wapping-Stepney, now the parish of St. George in the East, St John's, Wapping, and Aldgate, "to prevent mischiefs which may happen by keeping or having too great quantities of gunpowder in storehouses or warehouses

warehouses belonging to private persons, in and about the cities of London and Westminster, and suburbs thereof." *

The city experienced a great stagnation of trade, and the ruin of many families occurred, in consequence of the BUBBLE which took place in 1720. It appears that though the Mississippi scheme of John Law had lately ruined the people of France, the golden bait was to be swallowed in England by an equally plausible project. An exclusive trade in favour of the British South Sea Company having been concluded in consequence of a treaty with the king of Spain; the agents of that company, under cover of the importation which they were authorised to make by the ship sent annually to Porto Bello, poured in their commodities on the Spanish colonies, without limitation or reserve. Instead of a ship of five hundred tons burden, as stipulated by the treaty, they usually employed one of a thousand tons, exclusive of water and provisions: she was accompanied by three or four smaller vessels, which administered to her wants, and mooring in some neighbouring creek, furnished her clandestinely with fresh bales of goods, to replace such as had been previously disposed of.

By these advantages, the profits of the company became very considerable, and the public supposed them greater than they really were. Encouraged by such favourable circumstances, and by the general spirit of avaricious enterprise, Sir John Blunt, one of the directors, under pretence of enabling government to pay off the national debt, by lowering the interest, and reducing all the funds into one, proposed, that the South Sea company should become the sole public creditor.

A scheme so plausible, and so advantageous to the state, was readily adopted by the ministry, and soon received the sanction of parliament. The purport of the act was, that the South Sea Company should be authorised to purchase,

* About this time robberies had become so intolerable within the city and the vicinity, that government to put a stop to its progress, issued a proclamation, offering a reward of 100*l*. for apprehending any highwayman within five miles of the metropolis.

from the several proprietors, all the funded debts of the crown, which then bore an interest of five per cent. and that, after the expiration of six years, the interest should be reduced to four per cent. and the capital be redeemable by parliament. But as the directors could not be supposed to possess sufficient ready money for so great an undertaking, they were empowered to raise it as therein mentioned; and particularly by opening books of subscription, and granting annuities to such public creditors as should choose to exchange the security of the crown for that of the South Sea Company, with the emoluments which might arise from their commerce. While this affair was agitating, the stock of the South Sea Company rose to almost four hundred pounds, or four times the price paid by the first subscribers; and in order to raise it still higher, Blount, the projector of the scheme, circulated a report, on the passing of the bill, that Gibraltar and Minorca were intended to be exchanged for some places in Peru, by the cession of which the British trade to the South Sea would be greatly increased. In consequence of this rumour, which operated like contagion, by exciting hopes of astonishing dividends, the subscription books were no sooner opened, than persons of all ranks and conditions, as well as all ages and sexes, crowded to the South Sea House, anxious to become proprietors of the stock. The first purchases were, in a few weeks, sold for double the sum which had been paid for them; and the delusion, or rather the infatuation, was carried to such an extent, that stock sold, at last, for ten times its original price. New projectors started up every day, to avail themselves of the avarice and credulity of the nation; and the Welsh copper company, the York building company, and many others, were formed.

Every project, however absurd, which promised great advantages, was sure to meet with encouragement, during the public delirium*: but the South Sea scheme continued to be

* The nation was so transported with a spirit of adventure, that people became a prey to the most impudent impostors. An obscure adventurer,

be the grand object of attraction. At length, however, to adopt the phrase of the times, the *bubble burst*. It appeared, that such as were supposed to be in the secret, had disposed of all their stock, while the tide was at its height. An universal alarm was spread. Every one was ready to sell, and not an individual was willing to buy, except at a very reduced price. The South Sea stock fell as rapidly as it had risen, and to the lowest ebb. In a little time, nothing was to be seen of this fascinating scheme but the direful effects of its ravages—the wreck of private fortunes, and the bankruptcy of merchants and trading companies! nor any thing to be heard but the ravings of disappointed ambition; the execrations of beggared avarice; the pathetic lamentations of innocent credulity, the grief of unexpected poverty, or the frantic howlings of despair! *

The dreadful distractions which this iniquitous scheme produced in the city of London, occasioned the lord mayor, aldermen and common council to draw up a petition to the House of Commons, which was accordingly presented on the 3d of April 1721, and was in substance as follows:

“ That your petitioners think it their duty most humbly to represent to this honourable house the present state of the

turer, pretending to have formed a very advantageous scheme, which, however, he did not think proper to explain, published proposals for a subscription, in which he promised, that in one month, the particulars of his project should be made known. In the mean time he declared, that every person, paying down two guineas by way of earnest, should be entitled to the annual sum of an hundred pounds, for every hundred which he chose to subscribe. In one forenoon, this undertaker received a thousand of these subscriptions; and in the evening set out for another kingdom, leaving the subscribers to carry on the project in the best manner they were able.

The king, before his departure, had published a proclamation against these unlawful projects, and ordered them to be prosecuted as common nuisances; but, notwithstanding this prohibition, they were still carried on with uncommon vigour. In order therefore to put an effectual period to them, the lords justices dismissed all the petitions which had been presented for patents and charters; and the Prince of Wales renounced the company of which he had been elected governor.

* Lyttleton's Hist. of England.

city of London, so considerable a part of the kingdom, now filled with numberless objects of grief and compassion, the sad effects of the mismanagement, avarice, and fatal contrivances of the late directors of the South Sea Company, their aiders, abettors, and confederates, in the destruction of their country. Nor is it the case of this great city alone your petitioners lament, but the general decay of trade, manufactures, and of public credit, whereby this honourable house have been always so extremely tender; as also of the honour of the British name and nation.

“ Your petitioners beg leave to return their most humble thanks to this honourable house for the great pains they have taken to relieve the unhappy sufferers, as likewise for their continued application to lay open this whole scene of guilt, notwithstanding the industrious artifices of such sharers in the common plunder, as have endeavoured to obstruct the detection of fraud and corruption. And your petitioners doubt not, but the same fortitude, impartiality and public spirit wherewith this honourable house have hitherto acted, will still animate them in the pursuit of those truly great and noble ends.

“ We are too sensible of the load of the public debts, not to wish that all proper methods may be taken to lessen them: and it is an infinite concern to us, that the payment of a great sum towards them (which was expected from the late scheme) is now rendered extremely difficult, if not impracticable; and yet, as a cloud, hanging over the heads of the present unfortunate proprietors of the South Sea Company, and a great damp to public credit. We will not presume to mention in what manner relief may be given in this arduous affair; but most humbly submit it to the consideration of this honourable house. Your petitioners therefore most humbly pray this honourable house will be pleased to take such farther measures as they in their great wisdom shall judge proper, that trade may flourish, public credit be restored, and justice done to an injured people.”

The consequence of this and similar remonstrances to the feelings, as well as to the integrity of the legislature, was,
that

that a committee of the house of commons was chosen by ballot, to examine all the papers and proceedings relative to the execution of the South Sea act; and this committee discovered, that before any subscription could be made, a fictitious stock of five hundred and seventy-four thousand pounds had been disposed of by the directors, in order to facilitate the passing of the bill. Mr. Aislable, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had been largely concerned in the stock, was expelled the house of commons, and committed to the Tower, for having promoted the destructive execution of "the South Sea scheme, with a view to his own exorbitant profit; and having combined with the directors in their pernicious practices, to the ruin of public credit." Mr. Secretary Craggs, and his father, also great delinquents, died before they experienced the censure of the house; but the commons resolved, nevertheless, that Mr. Craggs, senior, was "a notorious accomplice with Robert Knight, treasurer to the South Sea Company, and some of the directors, in carrying on their nefarious practices; and, therefore, all the estate of which he was possessed at the time of his death, should be applied toward the relief of the unhappy sufferers by the South Sea scheme*."

The Earl of Sunderland, and Mr. Stanhope, one of the Secretaries of the Treasury, who were charged with fraudulent practices in the affair, had the good fortune to obtain a majority of the house in their favour, and were acquitted; though Sunderland thought proper to resign his place of First Lord of the Treasury †.

* Lyttleton's Hist. of England.

† The Earl of Sunderland paid the debt of nature on the nineteenth of April, after having incurred much popular odium, from his supposed connexion with the directors of the South Sea Company. He was a minister of abilities, but rash, obstinate, and impetuous. He was survived but a few weeks by his father-in-law, the Duke of Marlborough, who died on the sixteenth of June, and was interred with great funeral pomp in Westminster Abbey. The character of this nobleman may be best known from the history of his actions, which make too considerable a figure in the English history, either to require or admit of particular recapitulation.

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A sum amounting to two millions, fourteen thousand pounds, was confiscated from the estates of those principally concerned in this diabolical transaction, towards making good the damage sustained by the company, after a certain allowance had been deducted from each, according to their conduct and circumstances.

The particulars of their estates, as delivered upon oath, with the allowances made to them, were as follow :

Persons.	Estates of the Directors.			Allowances for Subsistence.	Fines taken from each Director.		
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Sir John Fellows - -	243096	0	6	10000	233096	0	6
Mr. Joye - - -	40105	2	0	5000	35105	2	0
Mr. Astel - - -	27750	19	8½	10000	17750	19	8½
Sir Lamb. Blackwell -	83529	17	11	15000	68529	17	11
Sir John Blunt - -	183349	10	8½	5000	178349	10	8½
Sir Rob. Chaplin - -	45875	14	5	10000	35875	14	5
Mr. Chester - - -	140372	15	6	10000	130372	15	6
Sir Will. Chapman -	32161	6	8½	10000	22161	6	8½
Mr. Child - - -	52437	19	1	10000	42437	19	1
Mr. Delaporte - -	17151	4	6	10000	7151	4	6
Mr. Edmonson - - -	5365	0	0	3000	2365	0	0
Mr. Eyles - - -	34329	16	7	20000	14329	16	7
Mr. Gibbon - - -	106543	5	6	10000	96543	5	6
Mr. Gore - - -	38936	15	5	20000	18936	15	5
Sir Will. Hammond -	22707	4	2	10000	12707	4	2
Mr. Hawes - - -	40031	0	2½	5000	35031	0	2½
Mr. Houlditch - -	39527	10	4	5000	34527	10	4
Mr. Horsey - - -	19962	5	3	10000	9962	5	3
Sir Jacob Jacobson -	11481	4	0	11000	481	4	0
Sir Theodore Janssen -	243244	3	11	50000	193244	3	11
Mr. Ingram - - -	16795	0	0	12000	4795	0	0
Sir John Lambert - -	72508	1	5	5000	67508	1	5
Sir Harc. Masters - -	11814	12	3½	5000	6814	12	3½
Mr. Morley - - -	1869	10	3	1800	69	10	3
Mr. Page - - -	34817	12	3½	10000	24817	12	3½
Mr. Raymond. - - -	64373	6	3	30000	34373	6	3
Mr. Read - - -	117297	16	0	10000	107297	16	0
Mr. Reynolds - - -	18368	12	2½	14000	4368	12	2½
Mr. Sawbridge - - -	72254	1	8	5000	72254	1	8
Mr. Tillard - - -	19175	14	4	15000	4175	14	4
Mr. Turner - - -	881	17	6	800	81	17	6
Mr. Surman - - -	112321	10	0	5000	107321	10	0
Mr. Grigsby - - -	31687	6	0	2000	29687	6	0

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The commons having thus punished the principal promoters of this iniquitous scheme, proceeded to repair, as far as possible, the mischief it had occasioned. They prepared a bill for that purpose. On the enquiries relative to the framing of this bill, it appeared, that the whole capital stock of the South Sea Company, at the end of the year 1720, amounted to thirty-seven millions eight hundred thousand pounds; that the stock allotted to all the proprietors did not exceed twenty-four millions five hundred thousand pounds; and that the remaining capital stock belonged to the company in their corporate capacity, being the profit arising from the execution of the fraudulent stock-jobbing scheme.

Thus by the timely and vigorous resolutions of the parliament, the South Sea Company were soon in a condition to fulfil their engagements with the public; and the calamities of the people, which had been carried to the most outrageous height, were, in a great measure, appeased, and tranquillity restored to the nation*.

The king, commiserating the distressed situation into which the city had been reduced, in consequence of this knavish project, thus addressed them; when the lord mayor and corporation went some time after to congratulate him on the birth of Prince William, afterwards the renowned Duke of Cumberland:

“ The zeal and affection you have upon all occasions shewn to my person and government, leave me no room to doubt of your joy at this happy increase of my family.

* Whilst this affair was in agitation, petitions from counties, cities, and boroughs, in every part of the kingdom, were presented to parliament, crying for justice against the villainy of the directors. Pamphlets and papers were published on the same subject; and the minds of the people were exasperated to the highest pitch of resentment.

The rapid circulation of money, the sudden elevation of persons of the meanest rank, and the almost total dissolution of property, occasioned by this infamous scheme, introduced a surprizing profligacy of life and manners. The adventurers, intoxicated by their imaginary wealth, gave full scope to the gratification of their criminal passions, and indulged themselves, without restraint, in every kind of lawless pleasure.

“ I cannot omit taking this opportunity of assuring you, that I am truly concerned at the calamity brought upon you by the wicked management of affairs in the South Sea Company ; I have, however, this comfort, that the reproach of any part of this misfortune cannot with the least justice be imputed to me. Nothing will give me more ease and satisfaction, than the seeing you delivered from your present sufferings, your trade revived, and public credit re-established.”

Another important concern in which the corporation was engaged, occurred this year ; when it was apprehended that not only their rights and privileges as a body corporate were invaded, but likewise that the general trade and the prosperity of the public were concerned, in consequence of an act then passing through parliament : “ For performing quarantine, lest the plague should approach the kingdom, as it raged in a dreadful manner at Marseilles.” The act enjoined, “ that every infected place should be inclosed and shut up by a line or trench, in order to cut off all communication ; and that all persons endeavouring to escape from the said infected place, without having regularly performed quarantine, were to suffer death as felons, without benefit of clergy.” The lord mayor, aldermen, and common council, and merchants, petitioned the house of lords against three clauses * in the said act, then under their lordship’s consideration,

* The obnoxious clauses were as follow : “ And be it further enacted, that if any person infected with the plague, or obliged to perform quarantine, shall wilfully refuse or neglect to repair within convenient time after due notice, it shall and may be lawful for the watchman, or other persons appointed to see quarantines performed, to compel every such person so refusing or neglecting, to return into such ship, &c. ; and every person refusing to repair, within convenient time after such notice, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and shall suffer death as a felon, without benefit of clergy.

“ And be it further enacted, that if any person not infected, nor liable to perform quarantine, shall presume to enter any ship, house, &c. so appointed, whilst any person or persons so infected, or being under quarantine, shall be therein, and shall return, or attempt to return from hence, unless in such cases, and by such proper licence as shall be directed

consideration, "praying they might be heard by their council, or otherwise, in relation to the said act, at such time and in such manner as their lordships should judge most proper." But after some debates, the question being put that the petition be received, it was determined in the negative, by a majority of sixty-three against twenty-two voices, seventeen of whom entered their protest *. A bill, however,

directed or permitted, it shall and may be lawful for the watchmen, or or other persons appointed to guard or secure such ship, house, &c. by any kind of violence that the case shall require, to compel such person to repair into such ship, &c.

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if at any time or times hereafter any city, town, or place within Great Britain or Ireland, shall be infected with the plague, it shall and may be lawful to and for his majesty, his heirs and successors, to cause one or more line or lines, trench or trenches, to be cast up or made about such infected city, town or place, at a convenient distance from the same, in order to cut off the communication between such infected city, town, or place; and the rest of the country to prohibit all person's goods and merchandizes whatsoever to enter, pass, or be carried over such lines, or trenches, unless in such cases, and by such proper licence, and subject to such regulations and restrictions for performance of quarantine, as shall be directed or permitted by any such order to be made and notified; and in case any persons being within such lines, or trenches, shall, during the time of such infection, presume or attempt to come out of the same, unless in such cases, and by such proper licence, and subject to such regulations and restrictions for performing of quarantine, as shall be directed or permitted by such order, to be made and notified as aforesaid; it shall and may be lawful to and for the watchman, and persons appointed, by any kind of violence that the case shall require, to compel all and every such person or persons to return back within such lines, or trenches; and in case any person shall actually come out of such lines, or trenches, such person shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and suffer death."

* P R O T E S T.

"*Dissentient,*

"1. Because the liberty of petitioning the king (much more that of petitioning either house of parliament) is the birth-right of the free people of this realm, claimed by them, and confirmed to them soon after the Revolution in an act, declaring the rights and liberties of the subject, and settling the succession of the crown; and whenever any

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remarkable

however, being soon after brought up from the commons to reverse the clauses that affected the city of London, the lords passed it without opposition.

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remarkable check hath been given to the free exercise of this right, it hath always been attended with ill consequences to the public.

" 2. Because the petition so rejected was in our opinion every way proper and unexceptionable, both as to the manner of wording and presenting it, and the matter to which it referred; nothing being more natural and reasonable than that any corporate body should, if they desire it, be heard upon any bill under the consideration of parliament, whereby they judge their particular interests to be highly, though not solely affected. This liberty we remember to have been granted, in a late session, to the traders of Norwich, upon their petition touching the callico bill; nor are we aware that it hath ever, in like circumstances, been refused to the meanest corporation in the kingdom: but if it had, we humbly conceive that in this case a distinction might have been made in favour of the city of London, which being the center of credit of the trade and monied interest of the kingdom, and the place where the plague, should we be visited by it, is most likely first to appear; and having also remarkably suffered by means of the late fatal South Sea scheme, was, we think, in a particular manner entitled to apply for relief against some clauses in the quarantine act, and deserved to have been treated on that occasion with more indulgence and tenderness.

" 3. Because the rejecting the said petition tends, we conceive, to discountenance all petitions for the future in cases of a public and general concern, and by that means to deprive the legislature of proper lights, which they might otherwise receive; it being no ways probable that subjects or societies of less consideration will venture to represent their sense in cases of like nature, after the city of London have been thus refused to be heard.

" 4. Because, as the receiving this petition could have had no ill consequences, as we conceive, nor have given any great interruption to the business of parliament for the rejecting it, may, we think, widen the unhappy differences that have arisen, and increase the disaffection to the government which hath already too much prevailed in this kingdom.

" 5. Because the arguments used on the debate, seem to us not to be of sufficient force; for we cannot conceive that because the said act of quarantine, in a general act, therefore no particular community or city, who think they may in a distinguishing manner be prejudiced by it, have a right to be heard in relation to it, and that at a time when it is

under

The year 1722 was productive of an act of parliament, which ordained, " That if any person refused or neglected to build his share of a party wall, after due notice given him, his next neighbour may build it for him, and oblige the person so neglecting to pay the charges of rebuilding it. And it was further enacted, that the water, falling from the tops of houses, balconies, and pent-houses, shall be conveyed into channels or kennels, by pipes in the front or sides of the houses, on the penalty of 20*l*."

A contested election for lord mayor this year introduced various circumstances, which alarmed the city respecting its rights and privileges. Sir Gerard Conyers, and Sir Peter Delmé, both gentlemen of great property, as well as approved magistrates, and the senior aldermen, having been

under the consideration of parliament : nor can we be of opinion that a petition agreed on by the lord mayor, aldermen, and citizens of London, in common council assembled, and presented not even by numbers allowed by law, but by a lord of this house, can possibly be a prelude or example towards introducing tumultuous petitions ; much less can we see why it ought the rather to be rejected, because it came from so great a body as the city of London : on the contrary, we apprehend, that an universal grievance, which may be occasioned by any general act. must be represented to the legislature by particular persons, or bodies corporate, or else it cannot be represented at all : that the rejecting such petitions, and the not receiving of them, is the way to occasion disorders and tumults ; and that the more considerable the body is, the more regard should be had to any applications they make ; especially for matters wherein not only the rights, privileges, and immunities, but all their trade, safety, and prosperity are, as the petition avers, highly concerned."

BRISTOL,
ST. JOHN DE BLETSOE,
FRAN. CESTRIENS,
COWPER,
BATHURST,
BOYLE,
AILSFORD,
STRAFFORD,
ABERDEEN,

GOWER,
FRAN. ROFFEN,
LITCHFIELD,
NORTH AND GREY,
TREVOR,
GUILDFORD,
BINGLEY,
UXBRIDGE.

returned

returned to fill the civic chair, a poll was demanded in favour of Sir George Mertins and Sir Francis Forbes; but upon the sheriffs declaring that the majority was in favour of the former gentlemen; Sir Gerard Conyers, was accepted by the court of aldermen and duly returned. This incited the disappointed party to apply to parliament on the 14th day of December, 1724, setting forth several grievances, and praying, "That, for promoting the welfare, for preserving the liberties, the peace, and tranquillity of the said city, and for settling elections in the said city on a just and lasting foundation, the House of Commons would take the premises into consideration, and give the petitioners such relief as the house should think fit." Upon this, a bill was ordered to be brought in, "*For regulating Elections in the City of LONDON; and for preserving the Peace, good Order, and Government of the said City.*" The bill was presented on the 27th of January, 1725; and passed into an act.

Among its provisions it was particularized, that on all elections by the livery, as well as at wardmotes, the presiding officer should appoint a convenient number of clerks to take the poll; that none should be permitted to poll but such as had sworn, or, being a Quaker, affirmed; that the presiding officer should begin the poll immediately after being demanded; that it should continue seven days for city officers, and three days for those of wards; should a scrutiny be demanded, the scrutineers to appoint six on each side, and the scrutiny to commence within ten days after the copies of the poll had been delivered, when it was to continue open for fifteen days, and no longer for city officers, and for those of the ward, three days; at these scrutinies, there were to be delivered true copies of the objections against the voters, under a penalty of 200*l.* with costs. The electors of aldermen and common council were to be freemen, paying scot and lot, and 10*l.* *per annum* rent: the scot ascertained to be the church-rate, poor, scavenger, orphan, and watch, and such annual assessments as might hereafter be imposed by the city; or thirty shillings in the whole,

as taxes; partners were also eligible to vote. The exemptions were, not being liverymen for twelve calendar months; those who had not paid their fines, or had received them back; those who had within two years preceding, requested to be, and were discharged from rates and taxes, or had received any alms whatever. The mayor, aldermen, and common council, to have a negative in passing acts, orders, and ordinances, except in the appointment of governors, &c. of Ulster, in Ireland. Freeman made after the first of June, 1725, to dispose of their personal estate as they thought proper. This act also altered the oath usually taken by every freeman*.

The

* The Freeman's oath agreeably to the formula, was as follows: the alterations by the above act, are printed in *Italic*,

“ THE OATH OF EVERY FREEMAN OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

“ Ye shall swear, that ye shall be good and true to our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, and to the Heirs of our said Sovereign Lord, the King.

“ Obeysant and obedient ye shall be to the Maior and Ministers of this city, the Franchises and Customs thereof ye shall maintain, and this City keep harmless, in that which in you is.

“ Ye shall be contributory to all Manner of Charges within the City, as Summons, Watches, Contributions, Taxes, Tallages, Lot and Scot, and to all other Charges, bearing your Part as a Freeman ought to do.

“ *Ye shall colour no Foreigners Goods, under or in your Name, whereby the King, or this City, might or may lose their Customs or Advantages. Ye shall know no Foreigner to buy or sell any Merchandize, with any other Foreigner, within the City or Franchise thereof, but ye shall warn the Chamberlain thereof, or some Minister of the Chamber.*

“ *Ye shall implead or sue no Freeman out of the City, whiles ye may have Right and Law within the same City.*

“ Ye shall take none Apprentice, but if he be Free-born, that is to say, no Bondsman's Son, nor the Son of any Alien, and for no [for any] less Term than for Seven Years, without any Fraud or Deceit; and within the First Year, ye shall cause him to be enrolled, or else pay such Fine as shall be reasonably imposed upon you for omitting the same; and, after his Term's End, within convenient Time, being required, ye shall make him free of this City, if he have well and truly served you.

“ Ye shall also keep the King's Peace in your own Person.

“ Ye

The citizens considered this as one of the most dangerous bills that had operated against the interest of the metropolis, and therefore opposed it with the greatest diligence.

On the twenty-second of March, the court of common council presented formal thanks to Francis Child, Richard Lockwood, and John Barnard, esquires, for their strenuous endeavours to prevent its passing, which was presented to them by a deputation of four aldermen and eight commoners.

The great ferment which this transaction occasioned was productive of general alarm; printed papers were dispersed, inviting a meeting of citizens at Guildhall, on the twenty-fourth, at five in the afternoon, to consider the merits of the bill; but the lord mayor Sir Gerard Conyers, and aldermen, resenting this measure as a violation of their authority, ordered the gates of Guildhall to be shut as soon as the business of the common council (which had been called on this occasion) should be finished, and the lord mayor sent information of what had passed to the ministry; upon which the guards at St. James's, Leicester House, and Somerset House, were doubled; and such other precautions were taken, as were necessary to preserve order: the heads of the bill were also printed, that the citizens might be better informed of the nature of the law intended to be passed.

As soon as the citizens knew its contents, and that it was sent up to the house of lords for their determination, a great number of them petitioned the house against it, as being injurious to their liberties.

This petition stated among other grievances, "That the said bill takes away from great numbers of the freemen, (other than paupers and non-jurors) the undoubted rights

"Ye shall know no Gatherings, Conventicles, or Conspiracies, made against the King's Peace, but ye shall warn the Maior thereof, or let it, to your power.

"All these Points and Articles ye shall well and truly keep, according to the Laws and Customs of this City, to your Power.—So God you help.

"God Save the King."

which

which they before had of voting in their corporate elections, without any crime or fault in them assigned.

“ That it destroys the former qualification of a voter in wardmote elections, and hath substituted a new, complicated, and uncertain one, in the room of it, and which might be productive of various controversies and disputes.

“ That it left all the remaining votes of the city at the mercy of the presiding officer, who might still declare as he should be inclined, without granting a copy of the poll scrutinized, or giving any account what votes he allowed or disallowed, notwithstanding this bill; whence the remedy either for the injured candidate or voter, became exceedingly difficult, if not wholly impracticable.

“ That it in a manner abolished the antient and laudable custom of distribution of freemens personal estates, so agreeable to natural equity, and so wisely adapted to the prosperity of a trading city, without just occasion, and upon suggestions not well founded.

“ That by the same bill, the commoners in common council, who were two hundred and thirty-four in number, and though they were all unanimous, might, nevertheless, be restrained from applying to his majesty, or either house of parliament, upon any occasion, how necessary soever; from issuing out of the chamber so much as one farthing, upon any occasion, how just soever; or seal any city lease, though upon terms ever so advantageous; or come to any resolution whatsoever, and how reasonable soever, without the consent of the mayor and aldermen, or the majority, though there should be no more than three of them present: and this, as it was said, by the antient constitution of the city; and yet, which is very extraordinary, the same bill laid no restraint upon the power which the lord mayor and aldermen exercised themselves over the public purse and seal, which was now become very great and extensive: if such had been the antient constitution of the city, it was objected, that few or no footsteps thereof, had remained to that day; and that in the memories of the oldest men, the same had never been so much as claimed or mentioned by

the lord mayor and aldermen, except twice only; first, in the year 1674, and again very lately; but that both claims had been relinquished as soon as mentioned; though it was found by experience, that the lord mayor and aldermen were never wanting to assert the most remote pretensions to all their rights and privileges.

“Therefore, from such alterations and innovations, they had too just reason to apprehend, that the good fruit and effect intended by this bill, was not expected from it in the form in which it then stood; and that the controversies and dissensions of the city, would not thereby be lessened, but increased.”

After the bill was read a second time, it was proposed by their lordships to ask the opinions of the judges, “whether this bill affected any of the prescriptions, privileges, customs, and liberties of the city of London, restored to them, or preserved by the act passed in the second year of king William and queen Mary, for reversing the judgment on the *Quo Warranto* against the city of London, and for restoring the said city to its antient rights and privileges?”

After various debates, the question was put, “Whether the judges should deliver their opinions upon the said proposed question?” This was at length determined in the negative, in consequence of which the bill passed into a law; and it is under this statute that all elections in the city of London have been since conducted; except the negative power granted to the aldermen by the fifteenth clause, which was afterwards repealed.

The lords, for the question, however, entered their protest upon this negative, as well as when it was resolved, “that the said bill should pass with the amendments. These protests are of so singular a nature, and contain so much important matter, worthy every citizen’s attention, that they are given at length:

Dissentient

“1. Because it being enacted and declared, by the act mentioned in the question, ‘That the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London, shall for ever hereafter remain, continue,

continue, and be prescribed to be a body corporate *in re, facto, & nomine*, by the name of mayor and commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, and shall, as by law they ought, peaceably enjoy all and every their rights, gifts, charters, grants, liberties, privileges, franchises, customs, usages, constitutions, prescriptions, immunities, markets, duties, tolls, lands, tenements, estates, and hereditaments whatsoever, which they had, or had a right or interest in, or to, at the time of giving the said judgment:’ and we being apprehensive that the alterations made in this bill, in the constitution of the common council, and other ancient rights, franchises, and prescriptions of the city, may utterly abolish the antient legal title of the city to their rights, franchises, prescriptions, and constitutions, in the particulars contained in the said bill, and may, in consequence thereof, work a total change of the whole antient constitution of the corporation of the said city, or greatly confound or prejudice the same, which has stood for so many ages, upon the foundation of its antient title, rights, and prescriptions, confirmed by many grants, made by his majesty’s royal progenitors, and by many acts of parliament, all which were restored so soon after the happy and glorious Revolution, and which have been peaceably enjoyed to the present time. We are of opinion, that the resolution of the said question by the judges, must have tended greatly to the necessary information of the house, and to their better judgment upon a bill of so great importance, as well as to the satisfaction and quiet of the citizens of London, who, so far as we can collect from the petitioners against the bill, are greatly alarmed at the consequence thereof: and we are of opinion, that it was the more necessary, and more consistent with the wisdom of this house, to be informed of the law by the judges, upon the question proposed; because we do not find in this bill, any saving or confirmation of any of the antient titles, rights, prescriptions, privileges, or franchises of the said city, restored to them by the former law.

“ 2. We think the question ought to have been proposed to the judges, the rather, because the opinions of several counsel

were admitted to be read at the bar of the committee of the whole house in favour of the bill.

BATHURST,	STRAFFORD,
WHARTON,	BINGLEY,
ARUNDEL,	GOWER,
BRUCE,	FOLEY,
COVENTRY,	FRANCIS CESTRIENSIS,
BRISTOL,	LECHMERE,
LITCHFIELD,	MONTJOY,
ST. JOHN BLETSOE,	ABINGDON,
LECHMERE,	WARRINGTON."

" Dissentient "

" 1. Because we apprehend that the penalty of 200*l.* upon the officer presiding at Wardmote elections, as well as at elections even for members of parliament, is so small, that it may construed into an indemnification, and be looked upon rather as an encouragement than a restraint, by a wealthy, partial, and arbitrary officer: at least we are of opinion, that such a one will not sufficiently be deterred by it from returning such candidates as he likes, rather than such as the city chuses; and if ever that melancholy case should happen, we fear, neither the candidates nor voters, will be able to find an effectual method of doing justice for so flagrant an injury, either to themselves or to the nation.

" 2. Because we cannot but think, from the evidence given at the bar, that this bill will take away from many citizens their right of voting in wardmote elections, by giving an exclusion to all those who inhabit houses under 10*l.* a year, even though they pay parish duties, or 30*s.* in lieu of them, which we conceive an unjustifiable hardship upon those who may have long enjoyed that right, and have had no crime objected to them, much less proved, as we think it ought to be, before they can justly be deprived of it.

" 3. Because by this bill, no act is to pass in common council, for the future, except what relates to the nomination of some few officers, without the assent of the major part of the mayor and aldermen, present in such common council, which we conceive will give too great an addition

of power to the mayor and aldermen, who have already many and large prerogatives incontestably allowed them by the commonalty of the city; and though the council for the bill insisted, that the mayor and aldermen had antiently that right, which this bill establishes, yet the proof of that right appeared to us so remote and obscure, that we our ourselves were too short-sighted to discern it; and on the other side it appears plain to us, that even from the time of incorporating the city to this present time, such a claim has very seldom been made; and that it has never been acknowledged, and therefore we conceive, if there be any foundation for such right, which we are far from thinking there is, the dispute should be decided first in the inferior courts of justice, and rather determined in the house of lords upon an appeal, then ended by an act of parliament, which seems to us such a method of determining controversies of this nature, as may prove of the most dangerous consequence to the rights and properties of all the subjects of Great Britain.

“ 4. Because the bill abolishes the custom relating to the distribution of the personal estates of free citizens, which is a custom not only of great antiquity, but seems to us to be wisely calculated for the benefit of a trading city, and has been acquiesced under for so many years, without the least complaint of any one free citizen that we ever heard of, that the taking of it away in this manner cannot but appear to us too rash and precipitate, and may too probably, in our opinion, be very detrimental to the true interest of this antient, populous, loyal, and hitherto flourishing city, the preservation of whose good order and government the bill itself very justly and judiciously allows to be of the greatest consequence to the whole kingdom.

SCARSDALE,	WHARTON,
STRAFFORD,	CRAVEN,
BOYLE,	WESTON,
BATHURST,	MONTJOY,
BINGLEY,	GOWER,
COMPTON,	FOLEY,
BERKLEY, of STRATTON,	BRISTOL,

BRUCE,

BRUCE,	EXETER,
FRAN. CESTRIENSIS,	ARUNDEL,
ABINGTON,	LITCHFIELD,
UXBRIDGE,	ST. JOHN BLETSOE."

Dissentient

For the foregoing reasons, and those that follow, viz.

" 1. Because we are of opinion, that the great alterations made by this bill in the antient constitution of the common council, and other the rights, franchises, and prescriptions of the city of London, will, if passed into a law, entirely subvert and destroy the antient title, which the city at this time lawfully claims, and has had hitherto; and will introduce and enact a new constitution upon the city hereafter; to be claimed and enjoyed, not upon the foundation of their antient title, but of this act of parliament, which must, as we conceive, in all future times, whenever the city of London may have occasion to assert or defend their antient title and franchises, bring them under insuperable difficulties; and may be followed with dangerous consequences, concerning the very being and constitution of the corporation, many of which it is impossible to foresee or enumerate.

" 2. We are of opinion, that the new constitution of the common council, enacted by this bill, whereby a negative is declared, and given to the mayor and aldermen, not only in the making of by-laws, for the government of the city, but in other acts concerning the issuing and disposal of the treasure of the city, and also of the seal of the city, whereby their lands and other estates are subjected to the said negative, and in all other acts and powers at this time, as we conceive, belonging to the common council, except only the appointment of some few officers, mentioned in the bill, is a dangerous innovation upon the city, unsupported by any evidence offered at the bar, of the ancient constitution, and though in late time mentioned to be claimed, yet contrary, as we conceive, to a clear, uninterrupted, and convincing proof of the exercise of the powers and authorities of the common council, in all ages, to the 29th of January, 1723. And we conceive, the alteration made by the bill, in
this

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this respect, to be the more unwarrantable, because the written evidence offered to support the claim of a negative by the mayor and aldermen, was either conceived in general terms, unapplicable to that claim, and not maintained by subsequent practice, or was drawn from proceedings in times of trouble and confusion.

“ 3. We are of opinion, that the extraordinary power given by this bill to the mayor and aldermen, will vest in them new and exorbitant authorities over all the citizens, their rights, liberties, and franchises of all kinds, inconsistent with that balance of power in the city by which the same have been preserved, and in the future exercise thereof, must, as we conceive, lay the foundation of constant and lasting disputes, divisions, and distraction in the city of London.

“ 4. We think this bill is the more dangerous, because it creates a new constitution in several particulars contained in it, not framed upon the ancient rights, proved or pretended to, or disputed on either side, but is a new model, without due regard to the antecedent rights, as claimed by either side, and will deprive a greater number of citizens of their ancient rights and franchises in elections, and otherwise, without leaving them any opportunity of asserting the same by due course of law, and is a precedent of the most dangerous consequence to all the cities and corporations of this kingdom.

“ 5. We are of opinion, that the abolition of the ancient constitution of the city, touching the personal estates of freemen, is a dangerous innovation, tending to let into the government of the city, persons unexperienced and unpractised in the laudable and beneficial trade of the city and kingdom, and unfit for the magistracy of the city, and may thereby introduce improper and pernicious influences over the citizens; and we think that the strength, the riches, power, and safety of the city of London have been hitherto, in a great measure, supported by this and other customs of the city, as the walls thereof; and we fear, that the decay of trade, and with that of the grandeur of the city of London,

don, and the diminution and loss of the great excises and duties arising from the trade of the city, on which the support of his majesty's government so much depends, may be the consequence of the abolition of this antient custom and privilege of the freemen of the city of London.

“ 6. Because we are of opinion, that the petition of the many thousand freemen of the city against this bill, ought to be of far greater weight, than the petition of fifteen aldermen for it, and that the confusion which may arise from this bill, if passed into a law, may tend greatly to the future disturbance of his majesty's wise and gentle government.

WHARTON, STRAFFORD.”
COVENTRY,

This was the last public act respecting the city of London, during the reign of George I. who died whilst on a journey to visit his German dominions, on the 11th of June, 1727, aged sixty-eight.

Very little need be added to what we have already said of this monarch's character, except, that “ the affection of his people he considered as the firmest support and security of his throne; and that he regarded those as his best and most steady friends, who freely and impartially acquainted him with the genuine principles of the British constitution, and advised him to regulate his conduct according to these maxims. It may, without adulation, be affirmed, that no prince was even better qualified to sway the sceptre over a free and a Protestant people; nor ever exercised the virtues of a great and virtuous governor, with more distinguished ability, or more uninterrupted success*.”

The commencement of the reign of George II. was propitious to the future welfare of the country; and his majesty, at his accession, in 1727, wisely continued the government on the principles which had been prudently adopted by his predecessor.

His speech to his parliament after the general election in 1728, was expressive of his regret, that the nation was in-

* Lyttleton's Hist. of England.

volved in war; a desire to reduce the public expence; and a hope, that some addition would be voted to the fund of Greenwich Hospital*.

The attention of the commons was directed to an object, which though of a more private concern, was big with national importance. Mr. (afterwards general) Oglethorpe, having been informed of shocking cruelties and oppressions exercised by gaolers on their prisoners, moved for an examination into these practices; and was chosen chairman of a committee appointed to inquire into the state of the gaols of the kingdom. They began with the Fleet prison, which they visited in a body: there they found Sir William Rich, bart. loaded with irons, by order of Bambridge, the warden, to whom he had given some trivial cause of offence. They made a discovery of many inhuman barbarities practised by that ruffian, and detected the most iniquitous scenes of fraud, villainy, and extortion.

When the report was made by the committee, the House unanimously resolved, " That Thomas Bambridge, acting warden of the Fleet, had wilfully permitted several persons to escape; had been guilty of the most notorious breaches of trust, great extortions, and the highest crimes and misdemeanors in the execution of his office: that he had arbitrarily and unlawfully loaded with irons, put into dungeons, and destroyed prisoners for debt, under his charge, treating them in the most barbarous manner, in direct violation of the laws of the kingdom."

A resolution of the same nature was passed against John Huggens, late warden of the Fleet prison; also against James Barnes, William Pindar, John Everett, and Thomas

* During this year, a daring project was concerted to rob the queen on her return from the city. This scheme, however, was frustrated by the villains being busily employed in robbing alderman Sir Gilbert Heathcote, in his chariot, as he was returning from the House of Commons. This circumstance, and the many daring robberies constantly committed, greatly alarmed the government and city; so that letters from the secretaries of state were sent to the magistracy to use their utmost endeavours to prevent such enormous proceedings.

King, who had been their accomplices in these cruelties. The house presented an address to the king, desiring he would order his attorney-general to prosecute the delinquents, who were committed to Newgate. A bill was prepared, disabling Bambridge to execute the office of warden: another for the better regulating the Fleet prison; and for more effectually preventing and punishing the arbitrary and illegal practices of the warden of the said prison: but by some unforeseen accident, justice was not effected against such horrible offenders.

Nothing occurred particularly attached to the subject of our narrative, till 1729, when the morals of the lower classes of society having been contaminated by means of vast quantities of deleterious compositions, which was in constant circulation, the grand jury of the county of Middlesex on the twelfth of February, "taking into consideration the great mischiefs arising from the number of shops or houses in which a liquor called geneva was sold in and about this city, and apprehending them to be public nuisances, and to be ranked amongst the most disorderly houses: it being notorious, that they not only harboured the vilest of both sexes among the meanest of the people; but by enuring them to habits of laziness and debauchery, brought them to want and misery; and when intoxicated with those pernicious liquors, they were hardened enough to attempt the greatest villanies, such as were unknown to any other nation, they, therefore, presented the said houses and shops to the court of King's Bench, praying that the honourable court would use their endeavours to obtain a remedy equal to so great a mischief. They likewise prayed the laws might be vigorously executed against beggars, and to prevent begging in the streets, which was become an intolerable nuisance, burden, and disgrace to the metropolis, and its environs: and they also presented the fashionable and wicked diversion called masquerade, and particularly the contriver and carrier on of masquerades at the King's Theatre in the Hay Market, in order to be punished according to law."

The citizens were entertained this year with an exhibition of a singular and interesting nature. About the latter end of June, six kings, or Indian chiefs, of the Cherokee nation, bordering upon South Carolina, in America, were sent to the British court, by Moytoy, their emperor, or great king, with the consent of the whole nation, and at the desire of Sir Alexander Cumin, bart. who brought them over to make a tender of their submission, crown and country, to the obedience of his majesty king George. On the ninth of September, they signed a treaty of friendship and commerce between Great Britain and their nation: and after having been entertained at his majesty's expence for the space of four months, set out for their own country, taking with them many valuable presents from his majesty to Moytoy their emperor.

A regulation of the utmost consequence to the safety of individuals, took place respecting watermen, wherrymen, and lightermen, working on the Thames. This was part of an act of parliament which, among other particulars, ordered, "That no waterman's apprentice shall, between Gravesend and Windsor, be trusted with the sole care of a boat, until he is sixteen years of age, if he is a waterman's son; or if a landman's son, until he is seventeen years of age, under penalty of ten shillings on the master."

The Fleet Ditch, on which so much expenditure had been exhausted to no purpose, and which had in former periods been esteemed a key of commerce in the city, was this year deemed a burthen and a nuisance, requiring more money to maintain it than was originally intended, and being besides of great danger to the lives of passengers. These concurrent disadvantages induced the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council, to petition the parliament on the 26th of February, 1732-3, praying, "That a bill might be brought in to empower the petitioners to fill up that part of the said ditch lying between Holborn Bridge, and Fleet Bridge, and to convert the ground to such uses as they should think fit and convenient." And in pursuance of their

petition, a bill was brought in and passed; by virtue of which the premises were arched over, and the site converted into a market.

By that act, the fee simple of the ground and ditch is vested in the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London for ever; with a proviso, that sufficient drains should be made in and through the said channel or ditch, and that no houses shall be erected thereon, exceeding fifteen feet in height.

This year is distinguished by the noble opposition of the citizens of London to an artful scheme for extending a general excise throughout the kingdom. The managers of this project had prepared the members of the house of commons with plausible hints of an intention to ease the nation of some heavy taxes, by introducing an advantageous scheme, which would appear more profitable to the fair trader, and be more equitably charged upon the public.

Happily, however, the independent members of the house were sufficiently prepared to oppose such an attack on liberty and commerce. On the 7th of March, Sir Robert Walpole, the original projector, moved, "That the house might, on that day se'nnight, resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, to consider of the most proper methods for the better security and improvement of the duties and revenues already charged upon and payable from tobacco and wines." This motion being agreed to, the house adjourned to that day, when the commissioners of the customs and excise were ordered to attend.

Alarmed at such an insidious innovation, a court of common council was summoned at Guildhall, when it was unanimously agreed to recommend it to the city members to use their utmost efforts in defeating so pernicious a design; and the reasons were set forth in the following representation, which was delivered to them.

"This court doth apprehend, from the experience of the laws of excise now in being, that extending those laws to any commodities not yet excised, must necessarily be very
prejudicial

prejudicial to trade, both as it will probably diminish the consumption of the commodity to be excised, and subject the fair trader to the frequent and arbitrary visitation of officers, and the judicial determination of commissioners, removable at pleasure, and from whom, therefore, can be no appeal.

“ That the extension of such laws must necessarily increase the number and power of officers, which will be inconsistent with those principles of liberty on which our happy constitution is founded ; and will farther deprive the subjects of England of some of those valuable privileges, which have hitherto distinguished them from the neighbouring nations.

“ Wherefore, this court doth earnestly recommend it to you, their representatives, to use your utmost diligence in opposing a scheme of this nature, should any such be offered in parliament, in any shape, or however limited in its first appearance ; being fully convinced that an inland duty upon goods now rated at the Custom House, cannot be effectually collected, even with the extension of the powers, or the severest exercise of all the rigours of the present laws of excise.”

The house was exceedingly full on the 14th of March ; each party appeared anxious for the contest, when Sir Robert opened his plan in a very long and elaborate speech, and then proposed to join the laws of excise to those of the customs : that the farther subsidy of three farthings per pound charged upon imported tobacco, should be still levied as formerly at the Custom House, and payable to his majesty's civil list : that then the tobacco should be lodged in warehouses to be appointed for that purpose by the commissioners of excise : that the commissioners of each warehouse, appointed likewise by the commissioners, should have one lock and key, and the merchant-importer another : and that the tobacco should be thus secured until the merchant found a vent for it, either by exportation or home consumption : that the part designed for exportation should be weighed at the Custom House, discharged of the three farthings

farthings per pound at its first importation, and then exported without farther trouble: that the portion destined for home consumption should, in the presence of the warehouse-keeper, be delivered to the purchaser, upon his paying the inland duty of four pence per pound to a proper officer appointed to receive it; by which means the merchant would be eased of the inconveniences of paying the duty on importation, or of granting bonds, and finding security for the payment before he had found a market for the commodity: that all penalties and forfeitures, so far as they formerly belonged to the crown, should for the future be applied to the use of the public: that appeals in this, as well as in all other cases relating to the excise, should be heard and determined by two or three of the judges, to be named by his majesty; and in the country, by the judge of excise upon the next circuit, who should hear and determine such appeals in the most summary manner, without the formality of proceedings in any of the courts of law or equity. Such was the substance of the infamous Excise Scheme. Sir John Barnard and Mr. alderman Perry, members for London, first attacked Sir Robert, in opposition; and were strongly supported by Mr. Heathcote, Mr. Pulteney, Sir William Wyndham, and other strenuous assertors of the liberties of England.

On the day of the expected motion, a numerous assembly of the most respectable inhabitants and citizens repaired to the avenues of the House of Commons, to wait the result of Sir Robert Walpole's motion; and in the course of the debate, he made a long harangue on the great number of people that beset the house; in which he made use of several expressions reflecting on the conduct of the citizens; and concluded thus: "Gentlemen may say what they please of the multitude now at our door, and in all the avenues leading to this house; they may call them a modest multitude if they will; but whatever temper they were in when they came hither, it may be very much altered now, after having waited so long at our door; it may be a very easy matter for some designing seditious person to raise a tumult and disorder among

among them ; and when tumults are once begun, no man knows where they may end ; he is a greater man than any I know in the nation, that could with the same ease appease them : for this reason I must think, that it was neither prudent nor regular to use any methods for bringing such multitudes to this place, under any pretence whatever. Gentlemen may give them what name they please ; it may be said, that they came hither as *humble supplicants* ; but I know whom the law calls STURDY BEGGARS, and those who brought them hither could not be certain, but that they might have behaved in the same manner."

This insulting peroration created the greatest disgust ; at length, the house being called to order, Sir John Barnard thus addressed his answer to Sir Robert's sarcasms : " Sir, I know of no irregular or unfair methods that were used to call people from the city to your door ; it is certain, that any set of gentlemen or merchants may lawfully desire their friends, they may even write letters, and they may send those letters by whom they please, to desire the merchants of figure and character to come down to the court of requests, and to our lobby, in order to solicit their friends and acquaintances against any scheme or project which they think may be prejudicial to them. This, Sir, is the undoubted right of the subject, and what has been always practised upon all occasions. The honourable gentleman talks of STURDY BEGGARS ; I do not know what sort of people may be now at our door, because I have not been lately out of the house, but I believe they are the same sort of people that were there when I came last into the house ; and then, Sir, I can assure you, that I saw none but such as deserve the name of STURDY BEGGARS as little as the honourable gentleman himself, or any gentleman whatever. It is well known, that the city of London was sufficiently apprised of what we were this day to be about ; where they got their information, I do not know ; but I am very certain, that they had a very right notion of the scheme which has been now opened to us, and they were so generally and zealously bent against it, that whatever methods may have been
been

been used to call them hither, I am sure it would have been impossible to have found any legal methods to have prevented their coming hither."

However, on Sir Robert's motion, the house divided : for the excise, two hundred and sixty-six ; against it, two hundred and five. Majority for the motion sixty-one.

Such success did not discourage the opposers of this pernicious scheme ; when the report thereof was made to the house on the sixteenth of March, Sir John Barnard, in a most elaborate speech, particularly pointed out the arbitrary conduct of the excise officers, and the farther prejudices that must in consequence arise from an increase of them. And concluded thus : " These are the fellows who, by this fine scheme are to be put into every man's house that is a dealer in either of the two commodities of tobacco or wine : these are the Lord-Danes who are to be, by law, appointed to lord it over every such dealer and his whole family. We know what was the fate of the Lord-Danes we had formerly in England, and I shall be very little surprized if these new ones meet with the same fate. In short, gentlemen may dress up the scheme in what shape they please ; but to one who considers it coolly and impartially, as I have done, it must appear in its true colours. I am convinced that it will produce nothing but the most mischievous consequences, not only to those who are to be immediately affected by it, but likewise to the liberties and properties of the nation in general."

Many other members spoke with great solidity of argument against the motion ; but so powerful was ministerial influence, that, on a division, it was carried in the affirmative, and a bill was ordered to be brought in, when every method was taken to expedite it, and every art practised to prevent the contents being publicly known : when, also, a motion was made for printing a sufficient number of copies for the use of the members, as is usual, it passed in the negative, 128 against 112.

These illegal proceedings so irritated the citizens, that Mr. Barber, the lord mayor, summoned a court of common council

council to deliberate on the most effectual measures to prevent passing such an obnoxious bill; a copy of which his lordship had with great difficulty obtained. He addressed himself to the whole body in the following speech:

“ Gentlemen,

“ There is a bill depending in the House of Commons (a copy of which I have procured) for laying an inland duty on tobacco; which duty, it is universally agreed, will prove extremely detrimental to the trade and commerce of this great city, as well as to that of the whole nation. And as the high station I have the honour to be in obliges me to be watchful over every thing that may affect the interest of my fellow-citizens, I should think myself wanting in my duty, if I neglected to call you together on this extraordinary occasion, that you might have an opportunity to deliberate on an affair of so much importance, wherein our liberty and property are so much concerned.”

It was then resolved, that a petition should be immediately drawn up, and ordered to be presented to the house. In this petition the citizens of London, after delivering their sentiments on the bill depending, and expressing the apprehensions they conceived of its bad effects, conclude thus: “ Therefore your petitioners most humbly pray, that this honourable house will be pleased to hear them by their counsel against the said bill.” *

The petition having been brought up, and read at the table, Sir John Barnard explained “ how much the city and citizens of London, as well as all the other trading part of the nation, would be affected by the bill for altering the method of raising the duties payable upon tobacco, and what

* The citizens of London have always enjoyed one privilege superior to any other body whatever; which is, that any petition from them is presented to the house by their sheriffs, and is brought up by the clerk of the house, and read at the table, without asking leave of the house for that purpose; when all other petitions must be presented by a member, and cannot be by him brought up, or read at the table by the clerk, till leave be first asked and granted.

just reasons they had to insist upon being heard by their counsel against it; and concluded with a motion for granting them leave to be heard by their counsel."

This revived the debates. The opposers of the motion urged, "that it had always been the custom of that house not to receive any petitions, and much less to admit counsel to be heard against any bill for imposing taxes upon the subject; for if such things were to be admitted, it would be impossible ever to pass such bill, because there would be so many different petitions presented against it by those who were to be subject thereto, that they could not hear counsel separately upon every such petition within the usual time of the continuance of one session of parliament; and that, in refusing to admit counsel to be heard, there could be no inconvenience, because every man, and every body of men, had their representatives, who certainly would represent their case, if any particular hardship was to be put upon them by any bill then before the house."

To this it was answered, "that the house had never pretended to any general custom of refusing petitions, except against those bills which were called money bills; that is, such bills as were brought in for raising money for the current service of the year; and that, even as to them, there were many precedents where the house had admitted the parties, whom they thought to have a real interest therein, to be heard by their counsel against the passing of such bills; that the admitting of counsel even in such cases could never prevent the passing of such bills, because the house could always order all parties petitioning to be heard at one time, and could give such directions, that never as to take up many days in hearing every thing that might be objected by every one of the parties petitioning; that though every part of the nation had its representatives in that house, yet it was well known, that speaking in public was a talent that every man was not endued with, whence it might happen, that the particular persons, or part of the nation, which were then to be aggrieved by what was passing in the house, might not have any such members as were proper to
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lay their case fully and clearly before the house; and that therefore, even as to money bills, it was proper to admit parties to be heard against them, when it appeared that they were particularly interested therein. But as to the case then before them, there was not the least pretence for refusing the desire of the petition, because the bill against which it was presented was no money bill; it was a bill only for altering the method of collecting the taxes already imposed, and therefore it could never be pretended that there was any practice or custom of the house for refusing to admit parties interested to be heard against such a bill; that, if there had been such a custom introduced, it ought not to be observed, especially when such a considerable body as the lord mayor, aldermen and common council of the city of London, came with an humble petition to be heard against a bill, which they thought would not only be injurious to them in particular, but destructive to the trade and commerce of the nation in general."

The question being put, for allowing the petitioners to be heard by their counsel against the bill, it was carried in the negative by two hundred and fourteen against one hundred and ninety-seven.

But the powerful opposition of the city, which was supported by several of the principal counties, soon convinced Sir Robert Walpole of the impossibility of carrying his point without endangering the peace of the nation, and his own safety. The consequence of which was, that this oppressive scheme, by the firm and steady interposition of the citizens, proved entirely abortive *.

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* In the course of these important debates, several members of the court party made complaint to the house, that a tumultuous crowd of people had assembled together several days during the session, and particularly while the debates on this bill were in agitation, in the Court of Requests, and other avenues to the house; and that they, and several other members, had been, in their return from the house, insulted and assaulted in the grossest manner. In consequence of this complaint, the house resolved, "That the assaulting, insulting, or menacing any member of that house, in his coming to, or going from the house, or on ac-

The miscarriage of the Excise Bill was celebrated by public rejoicings throughout the cities of London and Westminster; and the minister who projected it was burnt in effigy by the populace.

The bakers still continuing their fraudulent practices, the lord mayor and aldermen on the 25th of November 1734, resolved, "That, besides the fine, the names and places of abode of all bakers, detected and convicted of making bread under weight, shall be published; and that the assise of bread (instead of quartern loaves, wherein the poor were oftentimes defrauded of half a farthing) be penny, twopenny, and threepenny loaves, and to be marked accordingly; the penny loaf, fine, to weigh eight ounces seven drachms; wheaten, twelve ounces ten drachms; household, sixteen ounces four drachms; the others in proportion.

The inhabitants of Blackfriars having claimed privilege of exemption from the jurisdiction of the city of London, in right of the ancient monastery dissolved by King Henry the Eighth, in the year 1539. The lord mayor and citizens in the year 1735 ascertained their right to the Precinct, and

count of his behaviour in parliament, was a high infringement on the privilege of that house, a most outrageous and dangerous violation of the rights of parliament, and an high crime and misdemeanor. Secondly, that the assembling and coming of any number of persons in a riotous and disorderly manner to that house, in order either to hinder or promote the passing of any bill, or other matter depending before the house, was an high infringement of the privilege of that house, destructive of the freedom and constitution of parliament, and an high crime and misdemeanor. Thirdly, that the inciting and encouraging any number of persons to come in a riotous and disorderly manner to that house, in order either to hinder or promote the passing of any bill, or other matter depending before the house, was also destructive of the freedom and constitution of parliament, and an high crime and misdemeanor."

It was then ordered, first, that the members of that house, who served for the city of London, should signify the said resolutions to the lord mayor of London. Secondly, that those who served for the county of Middlesex, should signify the same to the sheriff of Middlesex; and, lastly, those who served for the city of Westminster, should signify the same to the high bailiff thereof.

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obtained a verdict in their favour by a jury of non-freemen in the court of King's Bench on the 10th of July. In consequence of this decision, Blackfriars became a precinct of the ward of Farringdon Within, and sends two representatives to the city common council. The cause and issue are thus detailed by Entick :

“ On Thursday July 3, 1735, a great cause was tried in the court of King's Bench, Guildhall, between John Bosworth, Esq. chamberlain of London, plaintiff for the city of London ; and Daniel Watson, shalloon and drugget seller, defendant, who was sued for opening a shop in Blackfriars and retailing his goods, without being a freeman of the city.”

The council for the plaintiff alledged, “ that Blackfriars actually belonged to the city of London when it was a monastery, and before trades were ever occupied there ; to prove which they produced several ancient records, viz. a charter of King Edward I. and a record of Richard II. calling it the Friary of London ; and another 21 Henry VIII. mentioning a parliament held at the Friars, preachers of the city of London, November 3, 1530, and other records of this kind. They likewise cited a paralel case to this, 15 Car. I. when an action was brought against one Philpot, a shoemaker of Blackfriars, for opening a shop and vending shoes there without being free of the city ; and after a fair trial by an equal and indifferent jury of the county of Hertford, a verdict was given for the city. They then called two or three officers of the city to prove that they had executed writs and other processes in Blackfriars.

“ The defendants council pleaded custom, time out of mind ; and called eleven witnesses, who declared they had known Blackfriars, some of them, upwards of forty years ; and that several persons had kept open shops there unmolested, though not freemen : some of them however could not deny but that there had been people sued, particularly about a year before, when a person suffered judgment to go against him by default.” The jury, who were all chosen out of Middlesex, brought in a verdict for the plaintiff with five shillings damages.

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In 1736, the city was very much annoyed by burglaries, street robberies, and other nocturnal disorders, which were imputed to the badness of the lights by night under the old contract; the lord mayor and common council applied to parliament to enable them to light the streets, &c. in a more effectual manner. And it was accordingly enacted by parliament, "that the lord mayor, aldermen, and commonalty of London, be empowered to erect a sufficient number of such sort of glass lamps as they shall judge proper, to be fixed in such places as they shall think fit, to be lighted and kept burning from the sitting to the rising of the sun throughout the year. Every house under 10*l. per annum* charged to the poor, to pay 7*s.*; from 10*l.* to 20*l. per annum* 12*s.*; from 20*l.* to 30*l. per annum* 14*s.*; from 30*l.* to 40*l. per annum* 16*s.*; from 50*l.* and upwards, 20*s. per annum* at most; including all parish churches, semeteries, chapels, meeting houses, schools, markets, warehouses, and other public edifices (except hospitals) pieces of void ground and spacious places to be assessed in due proportion by the aldermen, deputy, and common councilmen of the respective wards; to be paid by the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, for the fence round the cathedral, if not lighted at their own expence; by the church and chapel wardens and chief officers, masters, wardens, or governors belonging to public buildings; and by the chamberlain of London for Moorfields, and other void and spacious places. They who think themselves aggrieved by the assessment, have a right to appeal to the court of lord mayor and aldermen, whose decision shall be conclusive. The rates to be collected half yearly, without any expence, and to be paid in such manner into the chamberlain of London. That no collector shall at any time have in his hands for the space of ten days the sum of 50*l.*; and all embezzlements to be made good by a re-assessment of the ward in which it shall happen."

By this method the city of London is better lighted than any city in Europe, whether we consider the goodness of the lights, the number of the lamps, or the hours of lighting. It must be observed also that, in this computation, there

there is no more included than the city of London and its liberties, which not making above a seventh part of the buildings within the bills of mortality; every avenue and road leading to this metropolis having been since this period illuminated or lighted in a similar manner under different acts of parliament for lighting streets, parishes, and roads, it may be admitted that the whole number of public and private lamps now constantly lighted within the bills of mortality, cannot be less than between twenty and thirty thousand.

In consequence of the act for regulating the assize of bread, which had passed two years before, the bakers felt themselves aggrieved, and determined to apply to the legislature for relief. On Tuesday the 2d of March 1736, a petition of the master and wardens of the company of bakers in the city of London, on behalf of themselves and the rest of the bakers within the bills of mortality, was presented to Parliament, and read, setting forth, "That the meal-weighers, who were officers appointed to bring in the price of wheat to the magistrate, in order to affix the assize of bread within the city of London, made their cockets or returns of the prices of three different kinds of wheat, as sold at the market of Bear Key only; from which three prices of wheat, the assize of the three sorts of bread, distinguished by the names of White, Wheaten, and Household, was always ascertained; and that the best kind of wheat at Bear Key was generally sold in parcels, with wheat of inferior quality at one common price; so that the meal-weighers were not able to distinguish the true and real price of the best wheat; and that the first sort of bread in the assize table, distinguished by the name of White Bread, being the kind of bread commonly called French rolls, was of late years greatly improved; and in making such white bread the petitioners used only the finest part of the flour produced from the choicest kind of wheat, collected not from Bear Key only, but from all the adjacent markets, and even such selected wheat afforded but a very small quantity of
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that sort of flour which was also used in making the finest kind of paste ; and that although the finest sort of wheat, mentioned in the cockets of the meal-weighers, was not of a quality fine enough to make the first sort of bread, called white bread, it was fixed from the price of the first sort of wheat inserted in those cockets ; and that the second sort of bread in the assize table, distinguished by the name of Wheaten Bread, which was the best kind of large bread wherewith the families within the city of London and bills of mortality were daily served, was made entirely of the first sort of wheat mentioned in the cockets of the meal-weighers ; and the second sort of wheat contained in those cockets was not of a sufficient goodness to make such wheaten bread, nevertheless the assize of that wheaten bread was ascertained according to the price of that second sort of wheat, as returned by the meal-weighers ; and that the petitioners apprehended that the assize of wheaten bread ought to be settled according to the assize of the first sort of wheat mentioned in the cockets of the meal-weighers, being the very grain of which the wheaten bread was made ; and that the assize of the white bread ought to be advanced in proportion ; and that, although the expences attending the trade and business of the petitioners, were very greatly increased since the making of the table of assize, yet they had had no allowance in respect to such increase of expences ; and that by those means much the greatest number of the petitioners were reduced to very low circumstances ; and the most considerable among them, notwithstanding all their pains, applications, and frugality, found their substance daily diminishing ; and therefore praying the Houses to give leave, that a bill might be brought in for explaining and amending the laws then in being for regulating the price and assize of bread ; or to give such other relief to the petitioners as to the House should seem meet."

This petition having been referred to the consideration of committees, and those committees having on the twelfth made a very favourable report, a bill was then ordered to
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be brought in for giving a proper relief to the petitioners, and was soon after passed through both Houses without any opposition.

An act of benevolence was exerted during this year to rescue the lower classes of people from extensive and fatal ruin.—The various shocks which had convulsed the public mind, and the destruction which, in many instances followed, had unfortunately induced the noxious custom of dram-drinking; and there was no shop, however small its dimensions or property, but afforded its share of noxious spirits, denominated GIN. This had become so destructive to the health and morals of the community, that the parliament, in order to prevent the dreadful consequences arising from so pernicious a practice, passed an act, in which it was ordained, “That after the 29th of September, no person whatsoever should sell any sort of spirituous liquors in less quantity than two gallons, without taking a licence for such purpose; for which every retailer was not only to pay annually the sum of 50*l.* but also 20*s.* duty for every gallon sold after that manner. And every person who should sell such liquors without a qualification, to forfeit for every offence 100*l.* And, to prevent all persons from hawking or vending spirituous liquors by land or water, every person so offending to forfeit 10*l.*; and in case the party offending were incapable of paying the penalty, to be committed to hard labour in the house of correction for the space of two months.”

An act was also passed “for limiting the number of play-houses; to subject all writings intended for the stage to the inspection of the lord chamberlain; and to compel the authors to take out a licence for every production, before the piece could be publicly acted.”

His royal highness Frederick Prince of Wales, father of our present sovereign, being admitted a freeman of the Sadlers Company at his own request, was presented with the freedom of the city by order of a court of lord mayor and aldermen, on the 17th of December.

Constantly aiming at improvement, whenever their difficulties were even partially removed, the care of the citizens, after having enlivened the metropolis by the use of lamps, was directed to the safety of those whose business might occasion them nightly to traverse the streets, as well as for the further maintenance of regularity within their jurisdiction. To accomplish this purpose they obtained an act of parliament "to empower the common council, from year to year, to appoint such a number of beadles and watchmen for the several wards of the city and liberties thereof, as they should judge necessary; to order the arming of them, to appoint the time they were to watch, to ascertain their wages, and to appoint the number of constables that should attend in each of the said wards; to assess the inhabitants by the aldermen and common councilmen in each ward. That the said rate should be paid quarterly; that whoever neglected or refused, when demanded, to pay the same, or desired to be excused from paying the watch rate, should be disqualified to vote at elections in London; and that the owners of houses let into tenements, let to, or occupied by three or more tenants, should be assessed on the owners of such houses, but paid by some one or more of the occupiers thereof."

And it was further enacted, "that the mayor, commonality, and citizens, might impose any reasonable tax upon tenants and occupiers, and upon owners of houses, &c. where there was no present occupier, to be levied by distress; and to order such places before houses, shops, &c. untenanted, to be well and sufficiently paved and amended as often as need should be; to be paid for by the owner, under pain of distress." This act continued in force till the year 1766.

The year 1738 was ushered in by the burning of the king's printing house in Blackfriars. The fire broke out in the kitchen of the dwelling house; and the flames communicated themselves with such rapidity, that Mr. Baskett, the patentee, and his family, escaped with the greatest difficulty. The damage to the stock, &c. was very considerable.

A question of national importance, in which the city was very materially concerned, now took place. The depredations committed upon the trade and navigation to America had been so frequent and notorious, that individual complaints were numberless; but their treatment of our traders was at length so atrocious, that a representation from the whole body of merchants was necessary. This was couched in a petition to the House of Commons on the third of March, which expressed, "That the captains of the Spanish armed vessels, known by the name of *Guarda Costas*, made a practice of boarding and plundering British ships, on pretence of searching for contraband commodities, and on these occasions behaved with the utmost insolence, rapine and cruelty. That many vessels had been seized, their cargoes confiscated, and their crews imprisoned, in violation of the treaties subsisting between the two nations." They therefore prayed relief, and to be heard by themselves and counsel.

The petition was presented by Mr. Alderman Perry, who, after a very animated speech on the occasion, moved, "That it might be referred to the consideration of a committee of the whole house; which being agreed to, he then moved for an instruction to the said committee, that they do admit the said petitioners to be heard, if they think fit, by themselves and counsel."

This last motion was objected to by the speaker (Onslow,) who observed, "that it was not the method of that house to admit parties to be heard by themselves *and* counsel, but only by themselves *or* counsel."

This urged an indignant reply from the patriot Sir John Barnard, who observed "That as the petition was founded on facts, he should be sorry to see the design of it defeated by a scrupulous adherence to any points of form whatever; and that he thought it would be a hardship on the petitioners to deny them a request of so little importance as the present, merely because it interfered with a matter of form."

The speaker, however, insisting, before he put the question, to take the sense of the house, Mr. Alderman Wilmot rose, and thus manfully expressed himself to the Speaker:

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"Sir,

“ Sir, I think the petitioners ought to have liberty to be heard, not only by themselves *and* counsel, but if it were possible that we could indulge them in other advantages we ought to do it. To talk of working upon passions:—Can any man’s passions be wound up to a greater height? can any man’s indignation be more raised, than every free-born Englishman’s must be, when he reads a letter which I received this morning, and which I have now in my hand? This letter, Sir, gives an account that seventy of our brave sailors are now in chains in Spain. Our countrymen in chains! and slaves to Spaniards! Is not this enough to rouse all the vengeance of a national resentment? And shall we sit here debating about words and forms, while the sufferings of our countrymen call out loudly for redress?”

Several other persons, particularly Sir William Pulteney, spoke vehemently in defence of the merchants against the cruelties of the Spaniards; and it was at length agreed that the petitioners should be admitted to be heard by themselves and counsel.

Sir John Barnard moved for an address to the king, that all the memorials and papers relating to the Spanish depredations, should be laid before the house, which, with some alteration proposed by Sir Robert Walpole, was accordingly presented; to which his majesty was pleased to return a favourable answer. But in consequence of the intemperate conduct of those who deemed themselves patriots, by urging motions inconsistent with moderation, the real object of reparation was nearly lost, and the insults of the enemies of Britain had passed over with impunity; were it not that the good sense of the ministry, added to the vigour of its measures, amply retaliated the injury the nation had received by the capture of Porto Bello, Carthagena, &c.

But an event of a more genial nature occurred, on the twenty-fourth of May; her royal highness the Princess of Wales was delivered of a prince, at Norfolk House, St. James’s Square, who, on the twenty-first of June following was christened by the name of George. The ceremony of baptism was performed by the bishop Secker; and the
godfathers

godfathers were the King of Sweden and the Duke of Saxe Gotha ; the godmother was the Queen of Prussia ; all of whom was represented by proxy. After the publication of the young prince's baptism, the lord mayor, aldermen and common council, in a cavalcade of eighty-four coaches, exclusive of the lord mayor's, waited on the prince and Princess of Wales, with a most affectionate and loyal congratulation on the occasion. This prince, on the death of his father, succeeded to be Prince of Wales ; and on the death of his grandfather, ascended to the throne, by the title of George III.

The latter end of this year was distinguished by the foundation of Westminster Bridge. The inconvenience which had been occasioned by the great resort of coaches, and other vehicles, passing and repassing at the Westminster side, induced Dr. Potter, archbishop of Canterbury, and several noblemen, to procure an act of parliament in the year 1736, for building a bridge across the river Thames, from New Palace Yard, Westminster, to the opposite shore in the county of Surry. This act, however, was not obtained without great opposition from the city of London, as well as from Southwark ; and some fainter efforts were used by the bargemen and watermen of the Thames. But private interest was obliged to give way to public advantage, and preparations were made for carrying on this great undertaking under the sanction of the legislature.

The ballast-men of Trinity House were employed to open a large hole for the foundation of the first pier, to the depth of five feet under the bed of the river, and this being finished and levelled at the bottom, it was kept clear by a proper inclosure of strong piles. In the mean time a strong case of oak (called a caisson) was prepared of the form and dimensions of the intended pier in the clear ; this was made water proof, and being brought over the place, was secured within the piles.

In this wooden case the first stone was laid on the 29th of January 1738-9, by Henry, Earl of Pembroke. The caisson was above the high-water mark, and sinking gradually
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by the weight of the prodigious blocks of stone, the men could work below the level of the water as conveniently as on dry ground. Thus the middle pier was first formed, as were all the rest in the same manner, and when finished, the sides of the caisson being taken asunder, the stone work appeared entire.

The year 1739, is rendered remarkable by two foundations, one of civic state and convenience, the other consecrated to benignity and humanity*. Hitherto the chief magistrate had no fixed residence for administering justice, for exercising his official dignity, and for exhibiting the hospitality attendant to his office, except at Guildhall, or at the halls of some of the superior companies, which were usually hired for that purpose, at vast expence. To remedy this inconvenience, various plans for erecting a Mansion House for the public residence of the lord mayor, were suggested, and that of Mr. Dance, being approved, the chief corner stone was laid by Micajah Perry, esquire, lord mayor, with the following inscription :

“ THIS CHIEF CORNER STONE
WAS LAID THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF OCTOBER, IN
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1739,
AND IN THE THIRTEENTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF OUR
SOVEREIGN LORD, GEORGE THE SECOND,
KING OF GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE AND IRELAND,
BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MICAJAH PERRY, ESQ;
LORD MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

ALDERMEN :

SIR FRANCIS CHILD, KNT. JOHN BARBER, Esquire,
SIR EDWD. BELLAMY, KNT. SIR JOHN WILLIAMS, KNT.
SIR JOHN BARNARD, KNT. SIR ROBT. GODSCHALL, KNT.

* On Michaelmas day had been founded a mathematical school in the Grey Coat Hospital, in St. Margaret's parish, Westminster, for training up boys in the art of navigation, so as fit them for the service of their country.

COMMONERS :

 COMMONERS:

MR. DEPUTY JOHN SMART, MR. DEPUTY JAMES DANSIE,
 MR. WILLIAM SIMS, MR. DP. THOS. SANDFORD,
 MR. JOHN EVERITT, MR. DP. JOHN AYLIFFE,
 MR. DEPUTY R. HARRINGTON, MR. DP. BENJN. HODGES,
 MR. DEPUTY SAMUEL TATEM, MR. DP. THOMAS NASH,
 MR. ROBERT EVANS, MR. CHARLES HARTLEY,

BEING THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY ORDER OF THE
 LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COMMONS, OF THIS
 CITY, IN COMMON COUNCIL ASSEMBLED, TO ERECT
 THIS FABRIC FOR A MANSION HOUSE FOR THE USE OF
 THE LORD MAYOR OF THIS CITY FOR THE TIME BEING.

GEORGE HEATHCOTE, Esq. } ALDERMEN, BEING
 SIR JOHN LEQUESNE, KNT. } SHERIFFS.
 GEORGE DANCE, ARCHITECT.

This situation was fixed upon as being situated nearly in the centre of the city, and in the heart of business; though great difficulties arose in laying the foundation, from the number of springs with which the ground abounds: therefore, this spacious building was erected upon piles, and not finished till the year 1753*.

The other foundation was the Foundling Hospital. The contemplation of an establishment of this kind, had existed some years. Several public spirited persons had suggested the necessity of an asylum for exposed and deserted young children, who, either through misfortunes, or the inhumanity of their parents, might be left destitute of support; and to bring them up in such a manner as to render them fit for

* This great work had been long scheming and put upon such a footing as to make it very easy in expence to the corporation; for it appears by the resolutions of the common council, so early as in July, 1734, that 18,000*l.* had been then raised by the fines paid by forty-five gentlemen, into the chamber of London, to be excused from serving the office of sheriff, and by the said court of common council, applied to the building of a mansion house for the lord mayor. It was at the same time ordered to place the said sum of 18,000*l.* in the Three *per Cent.* annuities; and that the growing interest there should be added to the capital every year.

The whole expence of building the Mansion House, (including the sum of 3,900*l.* paid for purchasing houses to be pulled down,) amounted to 42,638*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

laborious

laborious and useful employments. With these laudable views, they proposed a subscription, and solicited a charter: but their endeavours proved ineffectual, from the ill-grounded prejudices of some weak people, who urged, that such an undertaking would only encourage persons in vice, by making too easy a provision for their illegitimate offspring.

Although these objections suspended the execution of the design for a time, yet it did not entirely defeat it. Several of these worthy persons at their deaths, left large benefactions for the use of such an hospital, as soon as it should be erected. Mr. Thomas Coram*, a commander of a ship in the merchants service, being informed of the legacies left for these purposes, immediately quitted the sea, to solicit a charter for the establishment of the charity, and spent the remainder of his life in promoting such a noble design, with unwearied assiduity.

* Captain Coram was born about 1668, bred to the sea, and spent the first part of his life as master of a vessel trading to the colonies. While he resided in that part of our metropolis which is the common residence of sea-faring people, business often obliged him to come early into the city and return late; when he had frequent occasions of seeing young children exposed, through the indigence or cruelty of their parents. This excited his compassion so far, that he projected the Foundling Hospital; in which humane design he laboured seventeen years, and at last by his sole application obtained the royal charter for it. He was highly instrumental in promoting another good design, viz. the procuring a bounty upon naval stores imported from the colonies; and was eminently concerned in setting on foot the colonies of Georgia and Nova Scotia. His last charitable design, which he lived to make some progress in, but not to complete, was a scheme for uniting the Indians in North America, more closely to the British interest, by an establishment for the education of Indian girls. Indeed, he spent a great part of his life in serving the public, and with so total a disregard to his private interest, that towards the latter part of it, he was himself supported by the voluntary subscriptions of public-spirited persons; at the head of whom was the truly amiable and benevolent Frederic, prince of Wales.

This singular and memorable man died at his lodgings near Leicester Square, March 29th, 1751, in his eighty-fourth year: and was interred, pursuant to his desire, in the vault under the chapel of the Foundling Hospital, where his memory is recorded, in a suitable inscription. *Biographical Dictionary.*

Mr.

Mr. Coram, previously to presenting any petition to the king, thought it most advisable to procure a recommendation of his design, from persons of nobility and distinction. This business he pursued with such unbounded diligence, that in a short time he caused the following memorial to be drawn up, signed by the ladies, whose names are underwritten :

“ Whereas, among the many excellent designs and institutions of charity which this nation, and especially the city of London, has hitherto encouraged and established, no expedient has yet been found out for preventing the frequent murders of poor miserable infants at their birth, or for suppressing the inhuman custom of exposing new-born infants to perish in the streets, or the putting out such unhappy foundlings to wicked and barbarous nurses, who, undertaking to bring them up for a small and trifling sum of money, do often suffer them to starve for want of due sustenance or care, or, if permitted to live, either turn them into the streets to beg or steal, or hire them out to loose persons, by whom they are trained up in that infamous way of living, and sometimes are blinded or maimed, and distorted in their limbs, in order to move pity and compassion, and thereby become fitter instruments of gain to those vile, merciless wretches.

“ For a beginning to redress so deplorable a grievance, and to prevent as well the effusion of so much innocent blood, as the fatal consequences of that idleness, beggary, or stealing, in which such poor foundlings are generally bred up, and to enable them, by an early and effectual care of their education, to become useful members of the commonwealth ; we, whose names are underwritten, being deeply touched with compassion for the sufferings and lamentable condition of such poor, abandoned, helpless infants, as well as the enormous abuses and mischiefs to which they are exposed ; and in order to supply the government plentifully with useful hands on many occasions ; and for the better producing good and faithful servants from amongst the poor and miserable cast off children or foundlings, now a pest to the

public, and a chargeable nuisance within the bills of mortality; and for settling a yearly income for their maintenance and proper education, till they come to a fit age for service; are desirous to encourage, and willing to contribute towards erecting an hospital for infants whom their parents are not able to maintain, and having no right to any parish; which we conceive will not only prevent many horrid murders, cruelties and other mischiefs, and be greatly beneficial to the public, but will also be acceptable to God Almighty, as being the only remedy of such great evils, which have been so long neglected, though always complained of; provided due and proper care be taken for setting on foot so necessary an establishment, and a royal charter be granted by the king to such persons as his majesty shall approve of, who shall be willing to become benefactors for the erecting and endowing such an hospital; and for the receiving the voluntary contributions of charitable and well disposed persons; and for directing and managing the affairs thereof *gratis* to the best advantage, under such regulations as his majesty in his great wisdom shall judge most proper for attaining the desired effect of our good intentions.

CHARLOTTE SOMERSET,	F. NOTTINGHAM,
S. RICHMOND,	E. CARDIGAN,
H. BOLTON,	DOROTHY BURLINGTON,
ANNE BOLTON,	F. LITCHFIELD,
J. LEEDS,	A. ALBEMARLE,
A. BEDFORD,	F. BIRON,
M. CAVENDISH PORTLAND,	A TREVOR,
J. MANCHESTER,	A. TORRINGTON,
F. HARTFORD,	E. ONSLOW,
M. HAROLD,	A. KING."
S. HUNTINGTON,	

Elated at this success, Mr. Coram soon after procured a like recommendation, signed by a great number of noblemen and gentlemen, both of which were annexed to his petition to the king. His majesty, after perusing the petition,

was

was so well pleased with the plan, and purposes prayed for, that he immediately granted his royal charter for establishing the hospital.

But the winter of the year 1739, was a season of distress to the labouring part of the public. A most severe frost began on Christmas Day, and continued till the ensuing February. Its severity was beyond precedent, and the effect produced was long felt. The river Thames was so solidly frozen, that great numbers of people dwelt upon it in tents, and variety of booths were erected on it for the entertainment of the populace. A few days after it began, there arose a very high wind, which did considerable damage to the shipping that happened at that time to be very numerous. Several vessels laden with corn, others with coals, &c. were sunk by the ice; many had holes beat in their sides by falling on their anchors: several lighters and boats were confined under the ice: in short, a more dismal scene presented itself on the river Thames than had ever been beheld by the oldest man living. The damage done between the Medway and London Bridge, was computed at 100,000 *l.* besides many persons who lost their lives from the severity of the weather. The watermen and fishermen were entirely disabled from earning their livelihood, as were the lower classes of labourers from their employment in the open air; and the calamity was rendered more severe by coals and other necessaries being advanced in their price in proportion to the intenseness and continuance of the frost. Happily for the poor, the hand of charity was liberally extended; great benefactions were given by those of opulent fortunes, and considerable collections were made in most of the parishes in London; from this benevolent assistance many wretched families were preserved that otherwise must have inevitably perished. The severity and continuance of this frost was equally felt in most parts abroad, but particularly in Holland.

Political intrigues and party dissensions forming no part of our subject; the election anecdotes of 1741, are necessarily passed. The record of the fifteenth of August enlarging the privilege of the magistracy, is alone worthy of preservation.

By the first charter granted to the citizens of London by king King. Charles I. "the mayor, recorder, and such of the aldermen as had served the office of mayor, with the three senior aldermen who had not passed the chair, were constituted justices of the peace for the city and liberties;" but from the great increase of the metropolis since that time, it was now found necessary, for the more easy bringing delinquents to justice, and his majesty considering the importance of a wise and extensive administration of justice in his metropolis, empowered the whole court of aldermen to act as justices of the peace. For this purpose he granted the following charter:

"George the Second, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland king, defender of the faith, &c. To all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Whereas our royal predecessor king Charles the First, late king of England, by his letters patent, under the great seal of England, bearing date at Westminster, the eighteenth day of October, in the fourteenth year of his reign, did give and grant unto the mayor and commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, and their successors, amongst other things, that the then lord mayor and recorder of the said city, and the mayor and recorder of the said city for the time being, as well as those aldermen who before that time had sustained and borne, as those aldermen who thereafter should have sustained and borne, the charge and office of mayoralty of the said city, although they should cease from the mayoralty, as should be dismissed therefrom, so long as they should remain aldermen there, and the three senior aldermen of the said city for the time being, who should have been longest in office of aldermanship, and had not before sustained and borne the charge and office of mayoralty of that city for ever, should be all and every of them a justice and justices to preserve and keep the peace of the said king, his heirs and successors, within the said city of London and liberties thereof; and appointed the said mayor and recorder for the time being, to be of the *Quorum*: And whereas, our royal predecessors king William and queen Mary, by certain other letters patent, under their great seal of England, bearing

ing date at Westminster, the 28th day of July, in the fourth year of his reign, reciting the said letters patent of king Charles the First; and reciting also, that the said mayor and aldermen, by their humble petition, had represented to their majesties, that the number of justices of the peace, constituted within the said city, by the said letters patent of king Charles the First, were so few, that by reason thereof, it frequently happened that justice could not be administered within the said city with so much expedition, so commodiously, and in such manner, as might be most expedient for their said late majesties service, and the utility of their subjects, their said late majesties, therefore by their said recited letters patent, did grant to the said mayor, commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, and their successors, that six other aldermen of the said city for the time being, who then were, or for the future should be next in the office of aldermanship to the three senior aldermen mentioned and constituted justices of the peace in the said first-mentioned charter, and who then had borne, and thereafter should have borne the office of sheriff of the said city, besides and beyond the three senior aldermen as aforesaid, should for ever thereafter be justices of the peace within the said city of London, and liberties thereof; and these six aldermen, with the mayor and recorder for the time being, as well as those aldermen who had borne the office of mayoralty, and the aforesaid three senior aldermen, or any four of them, whereof the said mayor or recorder for the time being to be one, are by the last recited letters patent, constituted justices of the peace for the said city and liberties, with the same powers that are granted to the justices of the peace of any county of this kingdom, as by the said several recited letters patent (amongst divers other matters and things therein contained relation being thereto respectively had) may more fully and largely appear: And whereas the lord mayor and aldermen of the said city of London, have by their petition humbly represented unto us, that since the granting of the said last-mentioned letters patent, the duties of the justices of the peace within the said city and liberties, are by many
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acts of parliament, very much increased, so that the petitioners, who are constituted justices by the said charter, have, for the more speedy and effectual execution of justice, agreed amongst themselves, to sit daily by turns in the Guildhall of the said city, for the public administration of justice, and that the petitioners most humbly conceive it will be for the public utility of all our subjects within the said city and liberties, and that justice may still be more commodiously and expeditiously administered, if the present number of justices of the peace within the said city of London and liberties thereof was increased: And the petitioners further represent, that the lord mayor and recorder being the only justices of the *Quorum*, if by sickness or other unavoidable accident, it should happen that neither may be able to attend the session, great inconveniences may arise, the petitioners, therefore have humbly besought us to grant to our good subjects, the mayor and commonalty, and citizens of the said city, that for the future, the mayor, recorder, and all the aldermen for the time being, may be justices of the peace for the said city of London, and liberties thereof; and that all those aldermen for the time being, who shall have borne and sustained the office of mayoralty of the said city, may be of the *Quorum*, as well as the mayor and recorder, we being willing to gratify the petitioners in their request: Know ye therefore, that we of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given, granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to the mayor and commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, and their successors, that the mayor, recorder, and all the aldermen of the said city of London, for the time being, and every one of them, be for ever hereafter a justice or justices of the peace, of us, our heirs and successors, within the said city of London, and liberties thereof; and we do by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, constitute, make, and ordain the mayor, recorder, and all the aldermen of the city of London for the time being, or any four of them, (of whom the mayor and recorder, or any one of the aldermen who have sustained the office

office of mayoralty for the time being, we will shall always be one,) justices of us, our heirs and successors, within the said city of London, and liberties thereof, to keep and cause to be kept all and singular statutes and ordinances in all their articles made, and to be for the preservation of the peace of us, our heirs and successors, and for the peaceable ruling and governing the people of us, our heirs and successors, as well within the said city, as the liberties thereof, according to the form and effect of the same ; and to correct and punish in the manner prescribed by those statutes and ordinances, all such persons as should be found offending within the said city and liberties thereof, against the form and effect of the same statutes and ordinances, or any or either of them ; and to demand such sufficient security for the peace and good behaviour towards us, and our heirs and successors, and all the subjects of us, our heirs and successors, of all such persons who shall send threatenings to any subject or subjects of us, our heirs and successors, concerning their bodies, or the burning their houses ; and if they refuse to find such securities, then to cause them to be safely kept in our gaol of Newgate, or in any other prison of us, our heirs or successors, in our said city of London, until they should have found such security ; and to do and perform all and singular other matters and things which any justice or keepers of the peace of us, our heirs and successors, within any county of that part of our kingdom of Great Britain, called England, may, can, or ought to do and perform, by virtue of any statutes and ordinances of this part of our kingdom of Great Britain, called England, or by virtue of any commission of us, our heirs and successors, to preserve the peace in any such county. In witness whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

“ Witness JOHN, Archbishop of Canterbury, and other guardians and justices of the kingdom at Westminster, the 25th day of August, in the fifteenth year of our reign.”

In Michaelmas term, 1742, a cause of considerable interest, respecting Liverymen, was tried in the court of
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Common Pleas, before Lord Chief Justice Willes. The Weavers Company were plaintiffs, and Mr. Thomas Handyside defendant. Mr. Handyside was free of the company, but not being free of the city, apprehended himself not eligible to the livery. The company called him upon the livery, which he refused to take up : but the court before whom the cause was brought, gave a verdict, " That every member of a company is eligible to the livery, though not free of the city."

This decision was succeeded by another equally important. During Hilary term, 1743, William Ayres, the lessee of the tolls on London Bridge, who had received, and insisted upon a presumptive right, to receive two pence for the passage of each cart laden with one ton weight or upwards, passing over the bridge. It appearing by the evidence, that the usage had been to take one penny only for a cart with two horses, although laden with a ton weight or upwards, the cause was therefore determined against him.

The interludes and drolls exhibited in Bartholomew Fair, were by this time become not only offensive to individuals, but a public nuisance ; and the licentious use made of the permission of holding the fair beyond the original term of three days, had given so great disgust to the citizens in general, as well as being a vast detriment to the shop-keepers in Smithfield, that a remonstrance was made against such permission ; and the lord mayor and court of aldermen, in 1744, not only reduced the time for keeping the said fair to three days, but prohibited the acting of all plays and interludes in booths, during the time that the fair lasted.

This measure was also necessary, at a time that the combinations of artizans and mechanics against their employers, had risen to an alarming height ; and the Master Taylors and Staymakers having represented to his majesty in council, that their journeymen, to the amount of fifteen thousand, had refused to work for the wages established by law, and were supported in it by the keepers of alehouses, where they usually resorted ; that they threatened to fire the masters houses, and abused those, who, in obedience to the laws, con-
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tinued to work; the privy council, by his majesty's command, sent a letter to the Duke of Newcastle, Custos Rotulorum of Middlesex, requiring his Grace's recommendation to the justices of the peace to carry into execution the act of the seventh of George the First, "to use their endeavours to prevent all unlawful Assemblies and Combinations; to revoke the Licences of such Victuallers;" and to give the strictest orders to the high-constables, for apprehending all persons offending herein.

Letters to the same purpose were likewise sent to Lord Cornwallis, constable of the Tower, and to the lord mayor of London. The justices met, and came to the resolution, "That if any journeyman should refuse to work for the wages settled by act of parliament, he should be committed to hard labour for two months; and that the master that paid more than the act allowed should forfeit 5*l*."

It was also of great importance, that the most prompt and effective measures should be pursued; for street-robberies were become so numerous and terrible, that it was thought necessary on the 13th of October, to present to his majesty the following address:

"We your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the court of lord mayor and aldermen of the city of London, having taken into consideration the many disorders and robberies which have been committed within these few weeks last past, in the streets of your royal metropolis, beg leave to approach your throne, and humbly represent to your most sacred majesty,

"That divers confederacies of great numbers of evil-disposed persons, armed with bludgeons, pistols, cutlasses, and other dangerous weapons, infest not only the private lanes and passages, but likewise the public streets and places of usual concourse, and commit most daring outrages upon the persons of your majesty's good subjects, whose affairs oblige them to pass through the streets, by terrifying, robbing, and wounding them; and these facts are frequently perpetrated at such times as were heretofore deemed hours of security.

“ That the officers of justice have been repulsed in the performance of their duty, some of whom have been shot at, some wounded, and others murdered, in endeavouring to discover and apprehend the said persons, by which means many are intimidated from duly executing their offices, and others put in manifest danger of their lives.

“ These unhappy circumstances do, we apprehend, tend greatly to weaken the hands of the magistrates, and render the laws ineffectual.

“ It is to us a most alarming consideration, and matter of great grief, that those crimes should in so short a time have grown to so great a height ; and we beg leave humbly to assure your majesty that we will vigorously, and with the utmost diligence, apply ourselves to restrain those violences and detect the authors of them.

“ Permit us, Sir, to express our hopes, that a speedy, vigorous, and exemplary execution of the laws upon the persons of offenders, as they shall fall into the hands of justice, may, under your majesty’s princely wisdom, conduce greatly to the suppressing these enormities, by striking terror into the wicked, and preventing others from entering into such evil courses, &c. ; we thought it our indispensable duty to lay these facts, and our apprehensions upon them, before your majesty, not doubting but we shall receive effectual support, and your good subjects all possible security from your majesty’s authority and fatherly protection.”

To which his Majesty was pleased to return this most gracious Answer :

“ The concern you express for the great disorders mentioned in this address, and the assurance you give me of exerting your utmost endeavours to detect and suppress them, are very agreeable to me, and cannot fail to have a good effect. Nothing shall be wanting on my part to put the laws in execution, to support the magistrates, vigorously to punish such heinous offenders, and to protect the persons and properties of my good subjects ; and I will give immediate orders that the most effectual methods be taken for these purposes.”

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The consequence of this address was, that on the ninth of January 1745, the king issued a proclamation, promising a reward of 100*l.* over and above all other rewards, for the apprehension of every person convicted of robbery or murder.

The annals of this and the following year exhibit a register of rebellion, desolation, and bloodshed. The French nation, ever the inborn enemies of Britain, and always jealous of the prosperity of such a formidable rival, had exerted every scheme to depreciate her finances, and to harrass her allies, by foreign war, and by every other disadvantage; conceived a plan of nearer and more dangerous import. Ever attached to the exiled family of Stuart, several principal clans in Scotland, embraced all opportunities that chance might furnish towards reinstating that family on the throne: this, among other plans, suggested itself to the intriguing policy of the French cabinet, and a rebellion in Scotland was the measure adopted to disperse alarm through the British dominions, and divert the attention of the nation from counteracting the means now about to be used by the former to enslave the liberties of Europe. This proceeding, however, is not attributable to any innate affection to the Stuart family, or their adherents; but from a principal of involving mankind in confusion, that the abettors might more easily profit by the spoil; and this has certainly been the motive that has directed the French in every system of their political economy.

The reputed grandson of James II. called the Chevalier de St. George, having been pampered by the exaggerated accounts of the strength to be raised in Scotland, and encouraged by the promise of powerful succours from the French monarch, who also furnished him with money and arms, embarked on board a small frigate, accompanied by a few Irish and Scottish adventurers, and landed on the coast of Lochaber in Scotland, where they were soon joined by a considerable body of Highland clans under their respective chiefs. Having assembled about fifteen hundred men, the chevalier encamped in the neighbourhood of Fort William,

and immediately commenced hostilities. A detachment from his main body surprised two companies of new raised soldiers, who, after an obstinate dispute, were obliged to submit; but an officer of the king's forces having fallen into the hands of the rebels, was courteously dismissed with one of the Pretender's manifestos, and a passport for his personal safety.

King George at this time was on a visit to his German dominions; and, had the regency during his absence, acted vigorously upon the first intelligence of the Pretender's arrival, this effort of the young adventurer must have been instantly crushed; but the little regard that they paid to information, and the discredit they attached to the integrity of their informers, continued to lull them into a fatal security, of which they were soon convinced, when they saw the error irremediable.

The administration were now effectually alarmed. The lords of the regency issued a proclamation, offering a reward of 30,000*l.* to any person that should apprehend the eldest son of the Pretender; a courier was also dispatched by way of Holland to his majesty, requesting his hasty return, and he accordingly arrived in London about the latter end of August. A requisition was made of the six thousand Dutch auxiliaries; and several British regiments were recalled from the Netherlands.

On the 5th of September the lord mayor received a letter, in his majesty's name, from the Duke of Newcastle, informing him that one of the Pretender's sons had erected a standard in Scotland, and that a great number of people had assembled together in a rebellious manner. At the same time the duke recommended his lordship to use his utmost care and vigilance for the preservation of peace and quietness throughout his jurisdiction.

On the 10th of September the lord mayor, aldermen and common council, attended by the sheriffs, recorder, and all the city officers, waited on his majesty at Kensington, when the recorder, in their names, presented his majesty with a
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loyal address ; which, among other expressions of duty and fidelity, concluded with the following testimony of their attachment :

“ The rash and daring attempts of the professed enemies of this nation, in favour of a popish and abjured Pretender, have filled the hearts of us, your loyal citizens, with the utmost abhorrence and detestation. And we beg leave to give your majesty the most solemn assurances, that we will be ready upon all occasions to sacrifice all that is dear and valuable to us, in defence of your majesty’s royal person and family, and in support of our happy constitution both in church and state.”

The next day the merchants of London went in a cavalcade of one hundred and forty coaches, and presented his majesty with a most dutiful and loyal address on the same occasion. And so anxious were they for supporting the public credit, that above eleven hundred of the most considerable merchants, traders and proprietors of the public funds subscribed their names to the following agreement :

“ We, the undersigned merchants, and others, being sensible how necessary the preservation of public credit is at this time, do hereby declare, that we will not refuse to receive Bank notes in payment of any sum of money to be paid us ; and we will use our utmost endeavours to make all our payments in the same manner.”

In consequence of this resolution, the demands, which had been very considerable at the Bank a few days before for cash, began greatly to diminish. These hasty demands were said to have been occasioned with a design to hurt public credit as much as possible, and to obtain gold to send to the rebels ; but, by the wisdom of the directors, who ordered all payments to be made in silver, this project was effectually frustrated.

All necessary precautions were now taken for the security of the kingdom. Orders were issued to keep the trained bands in readiness, and to array the militia of Westminster. Instructions to the same effect were also sent to all the lords lieutenants of the counties throughout the kingdom.

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The most substantial citizens, especially young gentlemen of fortune, merchants and tradesmen, entered into different associations, learned the military exercise, and provided themselves with proper accoutrements and arms in defence of their king and country. The principal noblemen made tenders of their services to the king, and some of them received commissions to levy regiments for suppressing the rebellion.

Among other bodies formed in London, at a meeting held in the Middle Temple Hall, an association was subscribed by several gentlemen of the law, who agreed to form themselves into a regiment, under the command of the lord chief justice Willes, to be denominated, "the Associated Regiment of the Law, for the defence of the royal family, and the preservation of the constitution in church and state." His majesty was so well pleased with this timely mark of their attachment, that the lord chief justice next day took his commission as colonel of the said regiment.

At a court of common council also, on the 3d of December, it was unanimously agreed to subscribe 1000*l.* out of the chamber of London, towards the relief, support and encouragement of such soldiers as then were, or thereafter should be employed in his majesty's service, during the winter season, towards the suppressing of the then unnatural rebellion. The companies of Stationers, Coopers, Drapers, Goldsmiths, and other fraternities, paid several sums into the chamber of London, for the same purpose. The lord chief justice Lee, the master of the rolls, and the judges, subscribed 1200*l.* on the same account. By these liberal contributions, the committee of the Guildhall subscription contracted for twelve thousand pair of breeches, twelve thousand shirts, ten thousand woollen caps, ten thousand pair of woollen stockings, one thousand blankets, twelve thousand pair of woollen gloves, and nine thousand pair of woollen spatterdashes, to be immediately provided for the use of the army.

So universal was the spirit of supporting the established government in opposition to the Popish Pretender, that
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even the Quakers contributed their mite on the occasion. They raised a sum of money among their own people to purchase warm woollen waistcoats for the soldiers to wear under their uniforms while they kept the field in winter.

On the 7th of December another proclamation was issued for discovering, apprehending, and bringing to account, all Jesuits and Popish priests, who should be found after the 9th instant, in the cities of London and Westminster, the borough of Southwark, or within ten miles of the same, with a reward of 100*l.* to those who should discover or apprehend any such Jesuit or Popish priest.

The young Pretender, had now gained possession of the city of Edinburgh, and lodged himself in the aplace of Holy-rood House, whence he issued a manifesto in behalf of his father, who he proclaimed king of Great Britain. by the stile and title of James III. and declared himself regent during his father's absence; promising to dissolve the union, and to redress the grievances under which, he said, Scotland had suffered: but these professions were only specious; he wished to seize the treasure of the kingdom; but in this he was disappointed, by the prudence and bravery of general Guest, who having conveyed the national property into the castle, defended it with a strong garrison.

It is needless to reiterate the successes of the rebels at Preston-pans, and their taking possession of Carlisle. The parliament met October 16th, when the king in his speech, relied on their affection and councils for the maintenance of public safety, the extinction of the rebellion, and the frustration of the designs of their foreign enemies. The parliament were unanimous in their attachment, the *Habeas Corpus* act was suspended, and several suspicious persons were taken into custody.

By this time his majesty's son, William, Duke of Cumberland, had arrived from the Netherlands, and was followed by a detachment of dragoons and infantry. The city trained bands were reviewed by the king, the volunteers throughout the kingdom were trained and exercised, the
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county militias were completed, and the promoters of order and the Protestant succession seemed united in repelling the invader of the government and constitution.

The prowess of the Duke of Cumberland in the discomfiture of the rebels, re-animated the public mind; and his reception in London, after the battle of Culloden, was in the highest degree gratifying; the prisoners he had taken, were confined in the different prisons of England. The Duke's victory effectually crushed the rebellion; and the proper measures were pursued for establishing public tranquillity; and at a common council held the 23d of January, 1746, it was unanimously resolved to present the duke with the freedom of London, in a gold box. The same court also petitioned parliament, that the negative power of the court of aldermen, in common council might be abolished. Their petition was successful, and the grievance removed.

Addresses of congratulation were presented to the king on the successful termination of the late dangerous rebellion. Parliament voted thanks to the Duke of Cumberland; and the House of Commons granted the sum of 25,000*l. per annum*, as an addition to his revenue.

The founder of one of the most eminent and respectable banking-houses now existing in the metropolis, Sir Richard Hoare, was the lord mayor, during this troublesome year. His diligent attention to the duties of his office, added to the inviolable attachment to the interests of his country, at such a perilous time, induced the court of common council to vote him particular thanks "for his constant readiness to call those courts together; and for his personal attendance and assiduity on every occasion."

It was at this time that the poor received the benefit of inoculation by means of the Small Pox Hospital; the first of the kind in Europe. A charitable foundation the more desirable, as being calculated to receive those miserable creatures, whom the rules of all other charities expressly excluded. This most useful charity was begun with two houses at a due distance from each other, in airy situations:
that

that for preparing patients for inoculation being situate in the Lower Street, Islington; and that for receiving them when the disease appeared, as well as for the reception of patients in the natural way, at the north-west corner of Cold Bath Fields.

An act of parliament passed at this time, dividing the Surgeons and the Barbers of London, into two separate and distinct companies.

It was now thought necessary to make public examples of justice; and the Earl of Kilmarnock, and Lord Balmerino, expiated their offences, August the 18th, on Tower Hill.—The conduct of these two noblemen was widely different; and their merits have very opposite claims to commiseration. The earl, had been educate din Revolutionary principles, and had engaged himself in the rebellion merely from motives of resentment against government; his principles had been suspected, and he had therefore been deprived of a pension which the legislature had granted him; but Lord Balmerino had engaged from a principle, which, however mistaken, proceeded from a mind that he imagined was conscientious; and from this motive only, openly avowed what others secretly encouraged. The behaviour of both was consistent with their opinions.

On the awful day for the execution of justice, about six in the morning, a troop of the life-guards, with another of the horse-grenadiers, and about one thousand of the foot, marched through the city to Tower Hill.

At ten o'clock the block was fixed, and covered with black cloth; soon after, the two coffins were brought on the scaffold, covered with black cloth, with gilt nails, &c. On the Earl of Kilmarnock's, was a plate with this inscription, viz. "*Gulielmus Comes de Kilmarnock, decollat. 18 Augusti, 1746: ætat. suæ 42.*" And on that for Lord Balmerino: "*Arthurus Dominus de Balmerino, decollat. 18 Augusti, 1746, ætat. suæ 58.*"

The sheriffs then went to the Tower, when the prisoners, after the sheriffs had given a receipt to the Constable for their bodies, were delivered to their custody; the procession

then began ; and having passed through the lines into the area of the circle formed by the guards, the passage was closed. The lords were then conducted into separate apartments in the house facing the scaffold, and their friends admitted to converse with them. The Earl of Kilmarnock was attended by the Rev. Mr. Foster, the Rev. Mr. Hume, and the chaplain of the Tower ; and another clergyman of the church of England attended Lord Balmerino. Before his lordship entered the house, hearing several of the spectators ask, Which is Lord Balmerino ? He answered, smiling, " I am he, gentlemen, at your service."

While they were in the house, his lordship asked permission to have a conference with the earl in his apartment ; which being granted, among other questions, he asked if the earl knew of any order being signed by the prince (meaning the Pretender's son) to give no quarter at the battle of Culloden ? To this the earl answering in the negative ; the Lord Balmerino added, " Nor I neither ; and therefore it seems to be an invention to justify their own murders." The earl replied, " He did not think this a fair inference, because he was informed, after he was a prisoner at Inverness, by several officers, that such an order, signed George Murray, was in the duke's possession."—" George Murray ! said Lord Balmerino, then they should not charge it on the prince." After this, he took his leave, embracing the earl with the most noble and generous compliments. " My dear Kilmarnock," said he, " I am only sorry, that I cannot pay this reckoning alone ; once more farewell for ever !"

As soon as he was gone, the earl, with the company present, kneeled down, and joined in a prayer delivered by Mr. Foster ; after which, having refreshed himself with a bit of bread and a glass of wine, he expressed a desire that Lord Balmerino might go first to the scaffold ; but being informed that he could not be indulged in this, he being first named in the warrant, he appeared satisfied, saluted his friends, and said, he should make no speech on the scaffold, but desired the ministers to assist him in his last moments.

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The multitude, who had been long expecting to see him on this awful occasion, on his first appearing on the scaffold, dressed in black, with a countenance and demeanor testifying contrition, shewed the deepest signs of commiseration and pity; and his lordship, at the same time, being struck with such a variety of dreadful objects at once, turned about to his friend Mr. Hume, and said, "Hume, this is terrible!" though without changing his voice or countenance.

After repeating several short prayers, one of which was for his majesty king George, and the royal family, his lordship embraced and took leave of his friends. The executioner, who had previously taken something to keep him from fainting, was so affected with his lordship's distress, and the awfulness of the scene, that, on asking him forgiveness, he burst into tears. His lordship bade him take courage, giving him at the same time a purse, with five guineas, and telling him he would drop his handkerchief as a signal for the stroke. He proceeded with the help of his gentleman, to make ready for the block, by taking off his coat, and the bag from his hair, which was then tucked up under a napkin cap; but this being too wide, the contracting it occasioned some delay. The hair being adjusted he turned down the collar of his shirt and waistcoat, kneeled down on a black cushion before the block, and drew his cap over his eyes; in doing which, as well as in putting up his hair, his hands were observed to shake; but, either to support himself, or as a more convenient posture for devotion, he happened to lay both hands upon the block, which the executioner observing, prayed his lordship to let them fall, lest they should be mangled, or break the blow. He was then told that the collar of his waistcoat was in the way, upon which he rose, and with the help of a friend, took it off; and the neck being made bare to the shoulders, he kneeled down as before. In the mean time, when all things were ready, and the baize which hung over the rails of the scaffold was, by direction of the colonel of the guard and the sheriffs, turned up, that the people might see every circumstance of the execution; in about two minutes after

his lordship had kneeled down, he dropped his handkerchief, when the executioner, at one blow, severed his head from his body, except only a small part of the skin, which was immediately divided by a gentle stroke. The head was received in a piece of red baize, and, with the body, put into the coffin, and carried in a hearse to the Tower.

The executioner was obliged to shift himself, by reason of the quantity of blood that flew on his clothes; and in the mean time the scaffold was cleansed, and fresh strewed with saw-dust. This being done, the sheriffs went for the Lord Balmerino, who, during this time, had conversed cheerfully with his friends, refreshed himself twice with a bit of bread and a glass of wine, and desired the company to drink to him, saying, that he had prepared a speech, which he should read on the scaffold, and therefore should not there say any thing of its contents.

When the under-sheriff entered his lordship's apartment to let him know the stage was ready, he prevented him by immediately asking if the affair was over with the Lord Kilmarnock; and being answered in the affirmative, he enquired how the executioner performed his office; and upon receiving the account, said it was well done: then addressing himself to the company, he said, "Gentlemen, I shall detain you no longer;" and with an easy, unaffected cheerfulness, saluted his friends, and proceeded to the scaffold. He was dressed in his regimentals, which were blue faced with red; and his appearance, with the apparent composure of his mind, astonished the spectators.

As soon as he arrived on the scaffold, he took off his coat and waistcoat, together with his neckcloth, and threw them on his coffin; he then put on a flannel waistcoat, which had been provided for the purpose, and taking a plaid cap out of his pocket, he put it on his head, saying, he would die a Scotchman. After kneeling down at the block to adjust his posture, and shew the executioner the signal for the stroke, which was dropping his arms, he once more turned to his friends, and took his last farewell: then, looking round on the spectators, he said, "Perhaps some may think my
behaviour

behaviour too bold, but remember, Sir, (said he to a gentleman who stood near him) that I now declare it is the effect of confidence in God and a good conscience, and I should dissemble, if I should shew any signs of fear."

As he passed the executioner, observing the axe in his hand, he took it from him, felt the edge, and returning it, clapped him on the shoulder to encourage him; he tucked down the collar of his shirt and waistcoat, and shewed the executioner where to strike, desiring him to do it resolutely, for in that, said his lordship, will consist your kindness. He then went to the side of the stage, and called up the warder of the Tower, to whom he gave some money, asked which was his hearse, and desired that the man would drive near the stage.

He then, without trembling or changing countenance, again knelt down at the block; and having with his arm stretched, said, "O Lord, reward my friends, forgive my enemies, and receive my soul," he gave the signal by letting his arm fall. His amazing firmness and intrepidity, and the unexpected suddenness of the signal, so surprized the executioner, that though he struck the part directed, the blow was not given with sufficient strength to cut through the neck, on which he made an effort to turn his head towards the executioner; but a second blow immediately succeeding the first, rendered him quite insensible, and a third finished the work. His head was received in the same manner as Kilmarnock's, and, together with the body, was put into the coffin, and conveyed to the Tower, in which place they were both interred the same evening.

The enemies of Mr. Foster (who attended the earl after condemnation) pretended that he had all along flattered his lordship with the hopes of a pardon, provided he kept up a shew of penitence to the last. This calumny (for it was probably nothing more) received some countenance by Kilmarnock's raising his head, after it was laid upon the block, and looking round among the spectators; notwithstanding which, he died as a man and a christian.

The conduct of Lord Balmerino, on this solemn occasion, though very different from that of Kilmarnock, was far from such as his enemies reported. It is beyond a doubt, that he would have accepted a pardon from the crown, could he have obtained it; but finding all his applications ineffectual, he prepared himself for death with great fortitude and resolution. The most accurate observers could not discover in his gesture, on the fatal day, the least symptom of concern, much less of fear; notwithstanding which, he was so far from being insensible, that he was seen to check his natural boldness, lest the spectators should think it indecent.

The number of spectators at these executions was incredible; the hill, the scaffolding, and the houses being crowded with people, who, in general, behaved with great decency during the whole solemnity; and very little damage or mischief was done.

Beside the examples made in the execution of the lords, seventeen officers of the rebel army were condemned and executed at Kennington Common; nine at Carlisle, six at Brompton; seven at Penrith; and eleven at York. Some few obtained pardons, and a considerable number were transported.

On the 8th of December, Charles Ratcliffe, esquire, commonly called Earl of Derwentwater, who had been taken in a ship bound to Scotland, was beheaded on Little Tower Hill, near the Minories, in consequence of a rule of the court of King's Bench, for being concerned in the rebellion in the year 1715; at which time he received sentence of death, but, with several others, made his escape out of Newgate.

The process and manner of this gentleman's death being similar to the former, precludes further detail. The head and body were put into a coffin, and carried in a hearse to the Nag's Head, in Gray's Inn Lane, and the next morning interred in the church-yard of St. Giles, in the Fields.

Thus fell this unhappy man, thirty years after his escape; a great part of which time he had spent with the Pretender
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in Italy. He was the youngest brother of James Earl of Derwentwater, who was beheaded in the year 1716. They were the sons of Sir Francis Ratcliffe, by the lady Mary Tudor, natural daughter to king Charles II.

The last, and most extraordinary personage, that suffered for this rebellion, was Simon Frazer, Lord Lovat, who was executed on Thursday, the 9th of April, 1747*.

He was apprehended by Lord Loudon, from whom he made his escape; but was at last taken concealed in a hollow tree, while he was preparing to go abroad. He was tried by the house of peers, before whom he preserved a jocular behaviour; and his defence was filled with the most satirical turns. His criminality, however, appearing sufficiently manifest, he was found guilty, and received sentence of death.

When the warrant for his execution was notified to him, he appeared indifferent as to his fate; and though he was urged by his friends to throw himself at his majesty's feet, and petition for mercy, he absolutely refused it, saying, "he was so old and infirm, that his life was not worth asking."

* Lord Lovat, in 1692, was a captain in Tullibardine's regiment; and, in 1695, he, with the assistance of his clan, violently forced the lady dowager of Lovat to marry him, for which he was tried and condemned; but being afterwards pardoned by king William, he fled to France, and turning Papist, accepted a commission under the late king James. He was confined for some years in the Bastille for acting a double part between the two crowns of England and France; and at length obtained his liberty by taking the order of priesthood. He officiated as a Jesuit priest at St. Omer's, till the rebellion in 1715, when coming over to England, he espoused the cause of government, and assisted in recovering Inverness from the rebels; for which he got the title of Lovat, and obtained the command of a company of highlanders.

In this rebellion, however, he again fluctuated in his conduct; and while he endeavoured to preserve appearances himself, he sent his son, with the greater part of his clan, to join the Pretender, as appeared by an expostulatory letter sent to him from the lord president. In answer to this letter, he not only endeavoured to exculpate himself, but was base enough to reproach his son in the most severe terms; and in a letter to the Duke of Cumberland, used the most hypocritical flattery in vindication of his innocence.

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His conduct, after conviction, appeared undaunted, and he preserved his jocose, satirical temper to the last moment of his life. He received the notice of his death-warrant without the least alteration in his countenance, thanked the gentleman who brought it, for the favours he had done him, and drank a glass of wine to his health; after which he sat down and conversed chearfully with him for a considerable time*.

On the Wednesday morning, his lordship waked about two o'clock, and prayed most devoutly for some time; after which, he went to rest again, and slept till between six and seven, when he called for the warder to dress him as usual; and during the course of the day, he not only talked pertinently and sedately with some gentlemen that came to see him, both about his own private affairs, as well as the public affairs of the nation, but merrily joked with the warder that attended him, the barber that shaved him, and almost every one that went to him. After eating a hearty dinner, he smoked a pipe, according to custom, and then sent orders to the cook to get some veal roasted, that it might be ready to mince for his breakfast the next morning.

On Thursday the 9th, being the fatal day, his lordship waked about three o'clock in the morning, and, as he had done the preceding day, prayed in a very devout manner for

* Being informed that it was reported an engine was to be made for his execution, like that called the Maiden, formerly used for beheading state criminals in Scotland, he commended the contrivance, "for," said he, "as my neck is very short, the executioner will be puzzled to find it out with his axe; and if such a machine be made, I suppose it will get the name of Lovat's Maiden."

On the Monday preceding his execution, the major of the Tower went to see him, and asked him how he did. "Do?" says he, "Why, Sir, I am doing very well; for I am fitting myself for a place where hardly any majors go, and very few lieutenant-generals.

The next morning he desired one of the warders to lay a pillow upon the floor at the foot of his bed, that he might try if he could properly perform his part in the tragedy in which he was next Thursday to be chief actor: and after having kneeled down, and placed his head upon the foot of the bed, he rose up, and said, "By this short practice, I believe I shall be able to act my part well enough."

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some time. At five he got up, called for a glass of wine and water, as usual, and sat reading in his chair for two hours, without spectacles; for, notwithstanding his great age, he had never made use of any, which was supposed to have arisen from his uniform method of living; though he often drank a chearful glass, yet he never drank to excess, and very seldom tasted wine without its being diluted with water.

During the course of the morning his lordship behaved with his usual gaiety, without once discovering the least sign of fear or uneasiness, as appeared from several incidents. At eight o'clock he desired his wig might be sent to the barber, that he might have time to comb it out in the genteelest manner; and having desired the warder to get him a purse to put the gold in, which he designed for the executioner, he added, "Let it be a good one, lest the gentleman should refuse it." On the warder's bringing two to chuse, he did not seem to approve of either; however, he chose one, and said, "Though it be none of the best, it is a purse that no man would refuse with ten guineas in it." Between eight and nine he called for a plate of minced veal, ate heartily, and then, having asked for some wine and water, he drank the healths of several of his friends and acquaintance.

Mr. Alderman Alsop, one of the sheriffs, (the other being ill) attended by the two under sheriffs and the proper officers, with the executioner, went from the Mitre Tavern in Fenchurch Street, to the house appointed for them on Tower Hill. At ten o'clock the block was fixed on the scaffold, and his lordship's coffin brought, which was covered with black cloth, adorned with coronets, &c. and on the lid was this inscription: "*Simon Dominus Fraser de Lovat, decollat. April 9, 1747, ætat. sue 80.*"

He was conducted from the Tower gate to a house on the hill, from the upper rooms of which was a platform made to the scaffold. The rooms were hung with black cloth and sconces, the dismal appearance of which produced no alteration in his lordship's countenance. After delivering a

paper to the sheriffs, he told them they might give the word of command when they pleased, "For, said he, as I have been an officer in the army many years, I have been accustomed, and am ready to obey command." After this he knelt down and said a short prayer, then drank a little burnt brandy with bitters, and was conducted to the scaffold.

When he was ascending the steps, he looked round, and observing such a prodigious crowd of people on the hill, he said, "He wondered there should be such a bustle about taking off an old grey head that could not get up three steps without two men to support it." As he stood on the scaffold, observing one of his friends look very much dejected, he clapped him upon the shoulder, saying, "Chear up thy heart, man; I am not afraid, why shouldst thou?" He then gave the executioner the purse with ten guineas in it, recommending him to act his part handsomely; for, said he, "if you do not, and I am able to rise again, I shall be very angry with you;" and after examining the axe, and viewing his coffin, he sat down in a chair provided for him, and repeated several lines from Ovid and Horace. This done, he took off his cloaths, and kneeled down at the block, telling the executioner he would say a short prayer, and then drop his handkerchief as a signal for him to do his business.

Having placed himself too near the block, the executioner desired him to move a little farther back, which he did; and after placing his head and neck properly on the block, in half a minute he dropped his handkerchief, when the executioner, having now become expert in his business, severed the head from the body at one blow, both of which were put into the coffin, and carried in a hearse to the Tower, where, the next day, they were interred.

A perpetuity passed the great seal about this time for incorporating the bishopric of London, &c. into one body politic, for the relief of the poor clergymen's widows and children within the diocese of London.

The sixpence per chaldron on coals, allowed by parliament in aid of the Orphan Fund, expiring at Michaelmas

1750, the court of common council, after having agreed on the 22d of October 1747, and passed a bill on the 10th of December to raise 2000*l.* on the personal estates of the inhabitants for the Orphan's Fund from Midsummer 1742 to Midsummer 1748, petitioned parliament for a continuation of the said duty, and a bill was brought into the House of Commons, by which the said sixpence per chaldron on coals was continued for the further term of thirty-five years from and after the thirtieth day of September 1750, under the following conditions: "That the said city, out of the produce of the said imposition, shall pay 3000*l. per annum* to the Mercers Company; and that the revenues of the city shall be charged with 2000*l. per annum* over and above the 8000*l. per annum* applied by the fifth and sixth of William and Mary, for the relief of the orphans; with power to the lord mayor and aldermen to pay off the principal debt and interest, due upon the act above mentioned." By this power the city borrowed 25,000*l.* at the rate of 3*l.* 6*s.* *per cent.*; and the chamberlain, by order of the common council, dated on the 20th of June 1751, discharged the sum of 21,735*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* due to the Orphan's Fund from the city account, and placed it to the credit of the Orphan's Fund in discharge of the same debt. And from this time the city has always been assessed at Midsummer, from year to year, and paid 2000*l. per annum* by act of common council.

The same year, George Montgomerie, Esq. and Thomas Byrd, Esq. jointly with Resta Patching, having, about the year 1743, set on foot a work to furnish the inhabitants of the several parishes and places of Stratford and Westham, Bow, Bromley, Mile End, Stepney, and other parishes and places adjacent, with water; and for that purpose had obtained leases of several foot paths, and other waste grounds; and had also, at a considerable expence, built reservatories at Mile End, Stratford, and near the engine which they had erected at the latter place, to be worked by fire, near unto the three mile stone in the road to Stratford; they applied to parliament, and obtained an act, empowering them "to complete the said water works, and to lay and repair any pipes in, under, or over any highway, roads, or bridges;

and to lay pipes from the main branches into streets, &c. the undertakers making good all damages ; with a penalty upon those who wilfully or maliciously hindered, interrupted, or destroyed the said water works."

On the 25th of March 1748, a dreadful fire broke out at the house of Mr. Eldridge, in Exchange Alley, Cornhill ; which, notwithstanding the greatest supply of water and engines, and every other possible assistance, before twelve o'clock at noon upwards of eighty houses were entirely consumed, besides many others very considerably damaged. Mr. Eldridge and his family all perished in the flames ; and Mr. Cook, a merchant, who lodged in the house, broke his leg by jumping out of the window, and died soon after. The effects of the sufferers were preserved as well from theft as from the flames, by the care of the magistrates, and the assistance of parties of soldiers sent from the Tower and St. James's ; notwithstanding which, the loss occasioned by this accident was estimated at 200,000*l*. Several gentlemen, bankers and others, opened a subscription for the relief of the sufferers ; a committee was appointed, and Alderman Stephen Theodore Janssen, Esq. was chosen chairman ; and that the houses destroyed might be rebuilt with expedition, the common council, on the twenty-ninth, agreed to permit as many non-freemen to be employed as should be found necessary.

The mode of election for city officers not being satisfactory, and great advantages having been taken, on account of the remissness with which the laws were executed ; to remedy future inconveniencies, a court of common council was held on the seventh of April, when an act, repealing all former acts, orders and ordinances, relating to the nomination and election of sheriffs of the city of London, and for regulating and enforcing such nominations and elections for the future. The substance of this act is as follows :

" That the right of electing persons to the office of sheriffalty shall be vested in the liverymen, and that the general election day for sheriffs shall be the twenty-fourth of June, except it happens on a Sunday, and in that case the election to be on the following day.

" That

“ That the person or persons elected to the said offices shall take the same upon him or them on the vigil of St. Michael the archangel, next following the said election, and hold the same for and during the space of one whole year from thence next ensuing, and no longer, when some other persons shall be duly elected, and sworn into the same office in their stead.

“ That at the general election for sheriffs, all the aldermen who have not actually served the said office shall be publicly put in nomination, according to their seniority, before any commoner.

“ That the lord mayor may, at any time, between the fourteenth day of April, and the fourteenth day of June, in every year, nominate in the court of lord mayor and aldermen, any number of persons (not exceeding nine) free of the city, to be put in nomination for the said office of sheriffalty, to the liverymen assembled for the election of sheriffs, who shall be put in nomination publicly for the said office, before any other commoner, and in the same order as nominated by the lord mayor.

“ That if any so nominated shall, within six days after notice thereof, pay 400*l.* to the chamberlain, and twenty marks towards the maintenance of the ministers of the several prisons, together with the usual fees, every such person shall be exempt and discharged from serving the said office, except he shall afterwards take upon him the office of an alderman.

“ That no freeman shall be discharged from such election or nomination for insufficiency of wealth, unless he voluntarily swears himself not worth 15,000*l.* in lands, goods, and separate debts, and the same be attested on oath by six other freemen of credit and reputation.

“ That every person elected to the said office shall, at the next court of lord mayor and aldermen, give 1000*l.* bond to the chamberlain that he will take upon him the said office on the twenty-eighth of September next following.

“ That the person elected, who does not give bond to serve, shall, if an alderman, or commoner of the lord mayor's nomination, forfeit and pay 600*l.*; but if he be neither alderman, nor one nominated by the lord mayor, he shall

shall forfeit and pay only 400*l.* to be recovered by action of debt, in the name of the chamberlain of London, to be applied to the use of the lord mayor, commonalty and citizens, subject to the orders and resolutions of the court of common council; except 100*l.* to be paid to each of the new sheriffs, if two fines happen; or 50*l.* to each if only one fine happens. And, lastly,

“ That no person who has fined shall be ever after eligible, except he takes upon him the office of an alderman; neither shall any person be compelled to serve the said office more than once.”

After an expensive and destructive war, the preliminaries for a general peace having been signed by the plenipotentiaries of the contending powers at Aix la Chapelle, on the nineteenth of April, a cessation of arms was proclaimed on the ninth of May at the Royal Exchange, and the other usual places in London and Westminster.

Whilst the blessings of peace, at last, seemed to smile on the country after a domestic and foreign warfare for the space of nearly a century, no fitter place than that we have here adopted, can be appropriated to record the increase of the city and its environs since the great fire.

Taking the north-east part of the metropolis, we commence at those vast ranges of building, called Spitalfields, reaching from Spital Yard at Northern Fallgate, and from Artillery Lane in Bishopsgate Street, with all the new streets, beginning at Hoxton and the back of Shoreditch church north, and reaching to Brick Lane, and to the end of Hare Street, on the way to Bethnal Green east; then sloping away quite to Whitechapel road south-east, containing above three hundred and twenty acres of ground, closely built, and numerously inhabited.

Before this improvement, the lanes were deep, dirty, and unfrequented; that part now called Spitalfields Market was a field, with cows feeding on it, since the year 1670. The Old Artillery Ground (where the parliament enlisted their first soldiers against the king) took up all those long streets leading out of Artillery Lane to Spital Yard Back Gate;

Gate; and so to the end of Wheeler Street. Brick Lane, now a long well-paved street, was a deep dirty road, frequented chiefly by carts carrying bricks into Whitechapel from brick-kilns in those fields, whence its name.

More eastwardly, the same increase continued in proportion. Thus Goodman's Fields, and the many streets between Whitechapel and Rosemary Lane, were all built since the year 1678. Well Close, or Marine Square, all the west end of Ratcliff Highway, from the corner of Gravel Lane to the east end of East Smithfield, was a road over the fields; as were Virginia Street, and all the streets on the side of Ratcliff Highway to Gravel Lane above named, which now extend to the end of Limehouse.

In place of a poor and decayed neighbourhood, Petty France, near Bishopsgate, was erected the stately and elegant mansions now forming Broad Street, &c. They increased quite to Old Bethlehem, which originally consisted of mean and ruinous houses, forming comparatively a new and populous town.

On the north side of the city, beginning at Shoreditch, Hoxton Square, and Charles Square, were all open fields, from St. Agnes la Clair to Hoxton, till the year 1689. Pitfield Street was a bank, parting two pasture grounds; and the site of the Haberdasher's Alms-houses was an open field. Similar additions took place at the foot way by the Pest House, including the French hospital, as well as Old Street two squares, and several streets, extending from Brick Lane to Mount Mill and the road to Islington; and from that road, still west, to Wood's Close, St. John's, and Clerkenwell; all which streets and squares were built since the years 1688 and 1689; and some for a long time after that period, had been open fields or gardens, and never built on. Within a few years of the period of which we are writing, those open grounds, called Bunhill Fields, adjoining to the Dissenters burying-ground (nicknamed from the famous Mr. Baxter, who was the first there buried; Saints Rest, alluding to the title of a book he had published), were built upon, and formed into complete streets of houses to the very road, being generally well inhabited.

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On the north-west side of the city, beginning at Gray's Inn, and proceeding to what were formerly denominated Red Lion, and Lamb's Conduit Fields, prodigious piles of buildings had been raised, from Gray's Inn Lane to Queen's Square; including a great range of buildings reaching to Bedford Row, Red Lion Square, Ormond Street, Great and Little Marlborough Streets, Queen's Square, and all the streets between the square and King's Gate in Holborn. In this space of ground were many magnificent and stately mansions.

The improvements keeping farther west, in the same line, were Southampton, or Bloomsbury Square, with King Street on the east side of it, and all the numerous streets west of the square to the market-place; through Great Russell Street by Montagu House, into the Hampstead road; all, except Southampton House, formed from the open fields since the time above mentioned.

The increase of the buildings in St. Giles's and St. Martin's in the Fields, was really a kind of prodigy; and comprised all the buildings north of Long Acre to the Seven Dials; the streets from Leicester Fields and St. Martin's Lane, north and west, to the Haymarket and Soho, from the Haymarket to St. James's Street inclusive; thence to the Park wall; with all the buildings on the north side of Piccadilly, and the road to Knightsbridge; besides the vast space between that and the side of Oxford Street, including Soho Square, Golden Square, Hanover Square, the two Bond Streets, George-street, Grosvenor Square, and Cavendish Square, and all their contiguous streets.

This last addition is, by calculation, more in bulk than the cities of Bristol, Exeter, and York, put together; and were mere fields of grass, and but a few years previously, pasturage for cattle.

In Spring Gardens, near Charing Cross, had been erected several very handsome buildings, and a neat chapel.

The blessings of peace were also productive of the arts of refinement; good humour and confidence superseded the

perverse fancies of disaffection and suspicion. Among other effusions of pleasantry, and at the same time to induce a pointed satire on public credulity, the facetious Duke of Montagu contrived the following ridiculous advertisement of the Bottle Conjuror :

“ At the New Theatre in the Haymarket, on Monday next, the 16th instant, to be seen a person who performs the several most surprizing things following, viz. First he takes a common walking cane from any of the spectators, and thereon plays the music of every instrument now in use, and likewise sings to surprizing perfection. Secondly, he presents you with a common wine bottle, which any of the spectators may first examine ; this bottle is placed on a table in the middle of the stage, and he, (without any equivocation) goes into it in sight of all the spectators, and sings in it, &c.” Though the imposition was so egregious, vast numbers of the nobility and the public resorted to the theatre to view the wonderful exhibition ; but after the usual time of preparation had expired, no appearance of the conjuror being announced, the patience of the audience was exhausted, a chorus of cat-calls ensued, heightened by loud vociferations and beating of sticks ; when a person appointed came from behind the curtain, and, bowing, said, that if the performer did not appear, the money should be returned. At the same time some person in the pit called out, that if the ladies and gentlemen would give him double prices, the conjuror would get into a pint bottle. A young gentleman in one of the boxes then took a lighted candle, and threw it on the stage ; which alarming the greater part of the audience, they made the best of their way out of the theatre, some losing their cloaks and hats, and others their wigs and swords ; whilst a party remained in the house to demolish the inside, the mob now broke in, and tore up the benches, destroyed the scenes, pulled down the boxes, and entirely demolished the theatre ; the furniture of which they carried into the street, preceded by the curtain fastened to a pole as a flag of triumph, and converted the whole into a large bonfire. A strong party of the guards had been sent

for, but did not arrive time enough to prevent the resentment of the enraged populace. No further injury ensued from the confusion in the house*.

The introduction of this adventure is certainly opponent to the history of improvement; it is however admitted to display an effort of extensive ingenuity in operating on the ideal faculties of credulous minds, and to divert our reader's attention to an instance of casual hilarity, as a foil to the more serious complexion of our narrative.

The following affords a curious retrospect of the value attached to what is, as it should be, considered an office of the highest importance to the city. At a court of common council held the 26th of January 1749, the recorder's salary was augmented from 120*l.* to 200*l. per annum.* The recorder's salary at present is 1500*l. per annum.* A striking instance of the prosperity to which the city has arrived!

The exhibitions of fireworks, &c. in testimony of the conclusion of peace, took place this year in an unusually magnificent manner, but that displayed in the Green Park was an extraordinary and expensive performance. It was situated opposite to the royal library, where the king and court had assembled to view its effect; and it consisted of a magnificent Doric temple, from which extended two wings, terminated by pavilions; and was one hundred and fourteen feet high, and four hundred and ten feet in length. The ornaments were all in relief, decorated with frets, gildings, lustres, artificial flowers, inscriptions, statues, allegorical pictures, &c.

* Many ludicrous pieces on the occasion were afterwards inserted in the public papers; among which was the following:

“ This is to inform the public,

“ That notwithstanding the great abuse that has been put upon the gentry, there is now in town a man who, instead of creeping into a quart or pint bottle, will change himself into a rattle, which he hopes will please both young and old. If he meets with encouragement to this advertisement, he will then acquaint the gentry when and where he performs.”

In another humorous advertisement on this subject, the reason assigned for the conjuror's not going into the quart bottle was, that after searching all the taverns, not one quart bottle could be found.

There

There were some of the community, however, who felt themselves displeased by the above profusion, as well as with the peace itself; and among these, Mr. Alderman Heathcote declared his disapprobation, by resigning his gown.

This year an act passed "For the more easy and speedy recovery of small debts within the city and liberties of Westminster, Southwark, the Tower Hamlets, and other places within the vicinity, by which the commissioners were empowered weekly to hear, determine, give judgment, and award execution against bodies or goods, for any debt under forty shillings."

The conduct of Mr. Sheriff Janssen, on the 18th of October, was highly praise-worthy; and evinced that the constitution and antient usage of the city, properly administered, precludes every assistance from the military. In consequence of a riot in the Strand, which occasioned a house of ill-fame to be destroyed, several persons having been convicted, two of the least innocent, as was supposed, were ordered for execution. A rescue being apprehended in favour of Penlez, one of the convicts, who was highly respected, and for whom great interest had ineffectually been made, a party of foot guards attended at Holborn Bars, to assist the civil authority in guarding the prisoners to Tyburn; but the sheriff, relying upon the strength of the force which he had power to bring, rescued the dignity of the city and county, by mounting his horse; and bearing the wand distinguishing his office, civilly dismissed the military guard; a promise also that the bodies should be delivered to their friends for interment, so satisfied the populace, that the sentence of the law was executed without obstruction. A striking and a laudable precedent, as a preservative against the interposition of the soldiery upon every trivial occasion of riot or disorder.

But a most material circumstance occurred by which the peculiar privileges of the citizens were contested and ascertained. Mr. RICHARD HOLLAND, a public spirited member of the court of common council, having found that by an

antient franchise, his brother citizens were exempted from all toll, &c. for their goods throughout England; with a perseverance and integrity becoming the cause, asserted in his own person, the claim which every freeman had to the same privilege, and obtained the following certificate from the lord mayor and court of aldermen for that purpose:

“ TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME. We Sir William Calvert, Knt. lord mayor of the city of London, and the aldermen of the same city, send greeting. KNOW YE, that among other, the liberties, free customs, and privileges, by the charters of the late kings, Henry II. Henry III. Edward III. and other kings of England, to the citizens of the city aforesaid granted, and by the authority of divers parliaments, ratified, approved and confirmed, it appeareth, that all the citizens of London, and their goods, are, and ought to be quit and free from all tolls, lastage, passage, package, pontage, pavage, and murage through the whole realm of England, and the ports of the sea, and through the whole dominions of the same, as well on this side, as beyond the seas: and that if any man shall take any toll or custom of the citizens of London, the citizens of London may take of the borough or town, where any toll or other custom shall be so taken, as much as the said citizens have given for toll, and are thereby indemnified; and that if any man within the realm of England, or in any of the dominions of the said kings, on this side, or beyond the seas, or in any of the ports of the sea, on this side, or beyond the seas, shall take any toll or other custom of the citizens of London, the sheriffs of the said city of London, for default of justice in that behalf, their goods may take at London, and also that the said citizens through the whole realm and dominions aforesaid, freely and without any lett of the said kings, or any of their officers or ministers, as well by sea as by land, concerning their goods and merchandizes, in any place or port, may traffic and as to them shall seem good, quit of all custom, toll or pavage, and also may abide in any place within the said realm for doing their said business, as in time past they have been accustomed to do;
and

and farther it is forbidden upon forfeiture, that none should presume from thenceforth to molest, or otherwise disquiet or vex the said citizens, contrary to the liberties to them as aforesaid granted; Wherefore we pray, and friendly intreat you on the behalf of Richard Holland, who is a citizen and freeman of this city, that you will not in any wise molest him in his person, nor in his goods, nor, in as much as in you is, suffer the same to be done by any others, and that if you have taken any thing from the said Richard Holland, his attorney, factor, assignee, or any of them; you make thereof restitution unto him, his attorney, factor, assignee, or some of them, without delay, according to justice, lest we, for want of justice on your part to be performed, should be urged to inflict the penalties of the charters aforesaid on you, or some of you, or to prosecute some other hard course against you, which we hope you will in your wisdoms prevent. In witness whereof we, the lord mayor, and aldermen of the city of London, have caused the great seal of the mayoralty of the said city to be affixed to these presents.

“ Dated at London, the 10th of October, in the 23d year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the Second, by the grace of God, king of Great Britain, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, and in the year of our Lord 1749.

M A N *.”

The peace of the metropolis was, however, very much disturbed by the election contest for the city of Westminster, between Lord Trentham and Sir George Vandeput. But the close of the year was productive of a cause in which the whole body of masters and journeymen in the city of London, were very materially concerned: the cause was tried in the lord mayor's court, between a club of journeymen free-painters, plaintiffs, and Mr. Row, citizen, and master

* As a farther testimony of Mr. Holland's spirited endeavours to preserve the ancient franchises of the city, he, in the year 1754, obtained a verdict in the court of King's Bench against the collectors of toll in Smithfield, during the time of Bartholomew Fair, on fifteen issues, with costs of suit; no attempt being made by any person to oppose him.

painter,

painter, defendant, for employing a non-freeman to work for him in the city. The defendant pleaded and made it appear by evidence, that the summer business of the city of London cannot possibly be done without the assistance of at least an equal number of non-freemen; that no freeman was ever refused, or could sometimes be got on any terms. To which the counsel for the plaintiffs replied with a very learned argument, upon a by-law by the city, in the reign of queen Anne. After which, the jury went out at two o'clock in the afternoon, returned twice without agreeing on the verdict: and being sent out again, and continuing a long time, the court ordered them to be locked up in the room without fire, candle, or any sustenance, by a sworn officer who was appointed to attend them. They remained in this situation till six next morning, when they brought in a verdict for the plaintiffs.

The hardship of the defendant's case induced the masters of the several handicrafts, &c. to petition the common council for liberty to employ foreigners under certain restrictions. This produced a counter petition from the journeymen, on which occasion there seemed to be a majority for the journeymen: but the consideration of those petitions was put off till their next meeting; and on the eighth of the ensuing February, a committee of six aldermen, and ten commoners, met in the old council chamber, to hear and examine the disputes between the masters and journeymen freemen; a day was appointed, and thirty masters and thirty journeymen were allowed to attend the said committee: and after several adjournments, the committee made their report on the 21st day of June, 1750, in which they said, that they had come to the following resolutions:

1. That the matters complained of by the several petitioners, require some regulation.
2. That the present method of proceedings against persons employing non-freemen required regulation.
3. That the court of lord mayor and aldermen be empowered upon application, to give leave to employ any number of non-freemen to work in the city, under certain restrictions: and,

4. That

*. That no freeman of this city shall be liable to the penalty inflicted by the act of common council, made and passed the 4th of July, 1712, if it be proved that the defendant did, immediately before setting such foreigner to work, use his best endeavours to procure a journeyman, being a freeman, to work with him, and could not procure any such freeman, being a fit and proper person to be employed by him in his work *.

This cause, however, was not finally adjusted till the 22d of November following; when a court of common council being called, after a debate of near four hours, the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:

“ That after the 1st day of December, 1750, the court of lord mayor and aldermen might grant a licence to a free master, who has used his best endeavours, and cannot procure a sufficient number of fit and able free journeymen to carry on his business, to employ such number of foreigners, for or during such time or times, and under such restrictions, as to the said court shall seem fit and necessary.

“ That on any Tuesday, on which no court of lord mayor and aldermen shall be holden, the power above-mentioned, so that the same do not exceed the space of six weeks, shall be vested in the lord mayor for the time being.

“ That no licence shall be granted to any freeman to employ any foreigner, unless he has one apprentice at least, or has had one apprentice within twelve calendar months next before his application for such licence.

* At this common council, a petition was presented by a physician, named Dr. Crow, and several other eminent citizens, for the lease of a piece of ground on Windmill Hill, denominated the Foundry, in order to build an hospital for the reception of lunatics; the petition being granted, St. Luke's Hospital for Incurables was first founded, facing the north-west corner of Moorfields. The spot on which it was built, is now occupied by the corner and adjoining houses of Providence Row, near the City Road, Finsbury Square. The Foundry was afterwards occupied by the Reverend John Wesley, as a chapel, to which use it was appropriated, till the erection of the present spacious place of worship in the neighbourhood, facing the road.

“ That

“ That no freeman shall be enabled to employ any foreigner by virtue of this licence, until he has registered the christian and surname, and place of abode, of the said foreigner, and in what business he is to be employed, with the town-clerk of the city for the time being, who is to enter the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, he being paid two shillings and six pence for every licence so to be registered: which book any freeman of the city shall have liberty to inspect, *gratis*, every day, between twelve o'clock at noon, and two in the afternoon, (Sundays excepted:) and if any person registered by virtue of this licence, shall leave his master's service, or be discharged the same, the town-clerk is, upon application, to insert and enter in the licence, and register, another person's name in the room of the person discharged, for the remaining term of the licence, without any fee.

And lastly, “ That the court of lord mayor and aldermen have a power to revoke or call in any licence, though the time limited be not expired.”

On the 8th of March, at half-past five in the morning, the sky being very clear and serene, and the air very warm, the inhabitants of London, and to a great extent round the city, were alarmed by the shock of an earthquake, that came with great violence, especially about Grosvenor Square. This was preceded about five o'clock by a continual, though a confused lightning, till within a minute or two of its being felt, when a noise was heard resembling the roaring of a great piece of ordnance, fired at a considerable distance, and then instantly the houses reeled, first sinking, as it were, to the south, and then to the north, and with a quick return into the centre. The top of one of the piers on the north side of Westminster Abbey, fell down, with the iron and lead that had fastened it. Several houses fell in; and many chimnies were damaged. Another shock had been felt during the preceding month.

Westminster Bridge was opened this year for passengers, and an act of parliament passed, “ enabling the commissioners to open and widen the road from the Stones End, at

Lambeth, to the Alms Houses at Newington, in such manner as to them shall appear to be most convenient; and also to lay out and make a new road from a place called Symond's Corner, on the new road aforesaid, cross St. George's Fields, to the Stones End, in Blackman Street, in the parish of St. George, in the Borough of Southwark, in the county of Surrey; and also another new road from the said Alms Houses, at Newington, cross certain grounds, into the Kentish Road, near the Lock Hospital, at the end of Kent Street, in the county of Surrey, and to extend the same road cross certain grounds to the road called the Grange Road, in the parish of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey; and to lay out and make a new road from the end of the new road already made by the commissioners for building the bridge to Kennington Common."

On the 8th of January, 1751, a court of common council augmented the recorder's salary, to the amount of 400*l. per annum.*

The journeymen taylors still continuing refractory, refusing to work for the wages settled at the last quarter session, and having committed many outrages, an order of privy council was issued against them, as well as for putting in force the act of 7 George I. for regulating journeymen taylors within the bills of mortality; and also the laws against the unlawful combinations of workmen, riots and tumults; promising a reward of fifty pounds each, for the discovery of persons sending threatening letters to master taylors*.

On the 22d of May, passed the act for regulating the commencement of the year, and correcting the calendar, agreeably to the Gregorian computation, which had been long adopted by most other kingdoms. It was by this statute, enacted, "That the year should, for the future, begin on the first of January, and that the eleven intermediate or nominal days, between the 2d and 14th of September, 1752, should, for that year, be omitted; so that the day which

* Sending threatening letters, and demanding money or value, is felony without benefit of clergy.

would otherwise have been called the 3d of September, was dated the 14th." By this correction, the equinoxes and solstices happen nearly on the same nominal days on which they fell at the council of Nice, in the year 325. This act, modelled by the Earl of Macclesfield, was productive of great utility : for, besides the computation being more correct, the correspondence between English merchants, and those of foreign countries, was much facilitated, mistakes in business removed, and errors in chronology obviated. The annual admission and swearing of the lord mayor of London, at Guildhall, by this act, was, of course altered to the 8th of November; and the solemnity of swearing him in at the court of Exchequer, in Wesminster, to the day following.

His majesty, on the 26th of October, granted his charter of incorporation to the Society of Antiquaries, of London. The first society in the city of London that went by this appellation, was established about the year 1580, by several of the most learned and ingenious men in the kingdom; but their meetings, by various accidents, having been greatly obstructed, the society dwindled, and at length entirely dropped. In the year 1717, it was again revived; after which time it did not meet with any interruption, and increased in respectability to its present incorporation.

A cause of some importance occupied the attention of the lord mayor and court of aldermen, at an adjourned session in Guildhall, held October 21st, this year, upon a proposal to open the port of London for the importation of foreign oats, pursuant to a statute made in the first year of king James II. whereby " the lord mayor and aldermen are impowered, in the months of April and October, to determine the common market prices of middling English corn, by the oaths of two substantial persons of the counties of Middlesex and Surrey, being neither merchants, corn-factors, meal men, nor factors for importing corn, nor interested in the corn imported; and each having a freehold estate of twenty pounds, or a leasehold of fifty pounds, *per annum*, and by such other ways as to them shall seem fit; and if the same shall appear to be above sixteen shillings *per* quarter, they

they are to certify the same with two such oaths in writing annexed, to the commissioners of the customs, to be hung up in the custom house." The persons who made this application, were eminent masters of livery stables, and inn-keepers; and the opponents, the corn-factors. After a hearing which lasted from nine o'clock in the morning till six in the evening, it was decided in favour of the corn-factors: there being five aldermen for laying it open, and six against it.

The year 1752 was productive of a trial which terminated rather ludicrously. The Poulterer's Company considering themselves within the meaning of the act of the fifth of Elizabeth, for regulating trades and mysteries, brought an action against a Poulterer at Kensington, upon the said act, for exercising the trade of a poulterer, not having served seven years apprenticeship; but after a trial of nearly three hours, neither the court nor jury understanding it at all necessary to be obliged to serve seven years to learn the *mystery or skill of plucking a goose, or skinning a rabbit*: the jury gave a verdict for the defendant.

On the 27th of June, a dreadful fire broke out at No. 10. Lincoln's Inn, New Square, which consumed that and the adjoining building. The loss occasioned by this accident to many noble and respectable families, on account of the destruction of title deeds, was beyond estimation.

The robberies and other irregularities which infested the city about this time, were grown to an enormous height; and the government and magistracy conceiving that the indiscriminate resort to places of public entertainment, might occasion a looseness of conduct, productive of the evils complained of, an act of parliament was passed for regulating places of public entertainment in the cities of London and Westminster, or within twenty miles of the same. In which it was enacted, "That from the first of December, 1752, any house, room, garden, &c. kept for public dancing, music, or other public entertainment, in London or Westminster, or within twenty miles of the same, without a licence from the last preceding Michaelmas quarter sessions,

under the hands and seals of four or more of the justices, who are hereby impowered to grant licences, shall be deemed a disorderly house or place; and every such licence, to be signed and sealed in open court, and not at any adjourned sessions, and publicly read by the clerks, together with the justices names subscribing the same, without any fee or reward for such licence. And any constable, or other person thereto authorized, by warrant from one or more of the justices of peace, may enter such house or place, and seize every person found there, to be dealt with according to law: and every person who keeps such house, &c. without licence, shall forfeit 100*l.* to such as will sue for it, and be otherwise punishable as in cases of disorderly houses. And over the door, or entrance of such house, &c. so licenced, shall be the following inscription in capital letters: "Licenced pursuant to act of parliament of the twenty-fifth of king George the Second." And no such house, &c. shall be opened before five o'clock in the afternoon. The inscription, and restriction as to the time, shall be made conditions of every such licence; and in case of breach of either, such licence shall be forfeited and revoked at the next general quarter sessions, and shall not be renewed to the same person; always excepting the theatres of Drury Lane, Covent Garden, and the Hay Market, or any other licenced by the crown or lord chamberlain."

The consideration of the fate which attended the famous Alexandrian Library, the destruction of which was the introduction of an æra of barbarism and ignorance, impells a sensation of a very different nature, when we contemplate the period at which the king and the British senate, by purchasing and consolidating into one magnificent treasure, the various funds of curiosity and literature in the kingdom; promoted science; established an exhaustless source of literary information; and laid the foundation of future accomplishments in elegant and classic knowledge: therefore, with pleasure, we record, that among the public acts of the state passed this year, was that for purchasing the collection of Sir Hans Sloane, bart. This eminent physician and natu-
ralist

ralist was connected with the city of London, by marrying in 1695, the daughter of Alderman Langley, and being desirous that the metropolis in which he had obtained an ample and well-earned fortune, should be benefited by the vast accumulation of useful knowledge which he had collected, he bequeathed by his last will, that his whole Museum should be offered to the parliament for the use of the public, on condition of their paying to his executors the sum of 20,000*l.* though it appeared from his own account, that the sum proposed for such a valuable repository, was scarcely the intrinsic value of the gold and silver medals, the ores, and precious stones which it contained ; and that the first cost of the whole collection to him had amounted to 500,000*l.* The parliament readily embraced the offer, and an act was passed, “ For the purchase of the Museum or collection of Sir Hans Sloane, and of the Harleian collection of manuscripts ; and for providing one general repository for the better reception and more convenient use of the said collections, and of the famous Cotton library, and of the additions made, and to be made thereto.”

Government immediately raised 100,000*l.* by lottery, for the purchase and establishment of this noble museum ; governors and trustees, consisting of the most eminent persons in the kingdom, were appointed to conduct it ; and among them were the archbishop of Canterbury, the lord Chancellor, and the secretaries of state, who were declared trustees for the public. Lord Cadogan and Hans Stanley, esquire, who had married Sir Hans Sloane's daughters were added ; after their decease, two others were to be chosen in their stead, either by themselves, or the family of Sir Hans Sloane, from time to time, to be their perpetual representatives in the trust.

In order to increase this valuable collection still more, the king, with the parliament, directed that the royal library of curious manuscripts, which had long lain exposed in the Old Dormitory, at Westminster, should be added to the Cotton library, and that it should become a part of the proposed museum ; and that Samuel Burrows, and Thomas Hart, esquires,

esquires, the then trustees of the Cotton library, and their successors, should be nominated by that family, as perpetual representatives in the same manner as those of Sir Hans Sloane.

The trustees of the late Lord Oxford, also generously offered the grand collection of manuscripts, formerly belonging to that nobleman, said to have cost above 100,000*l.* for a tenth part of that sum. These were readily purchased in consequence of the power granted to the trustees by the act of parliament; and the Earl of Oxford, the Duke of Portland, and their successors, to be chosen by themselves, or the Harley family, were made perpetual trustees for the same.

All these trustees were made a body corporate, by the name of the "Trustees of the British Museum," with power to make statutes, rules and ordinances; to chuse librarians, officers and servants, and to appoint their several salaries; upon this special trust and confidence, "that a free access to the said general repository, and to the collections therein contained, shall be given to all studious and curious persons, at such times and in such manner, and under such regulations, for inspecting and consulting the said collections, as by the said trustees, or the major part of them, in any general meeting assembled, shall be limited for that purpose."

A short time after the passing of the act for establishing this noble Museum, and whilst the trustees were at a loss where to purchase or build a proper repository, another offer was made by the two heiresses of the Montague family, of the noble house and garden of that name, in Great Russel Street, Bloomsbury. This offer was readily accepted, and Montague House was purchased for 10,000*l.* Besides which, the trustees immediately laid out between twenty and thirty thousand pounds on necessary repairs, alterations, and conveniences for the reception of all the collections united.

This repository, after its completion was so judiciously contrived for the arrangement of its extensive contents, as well as their advantageous disposition in the several rooms adapted for

for public inspection, that the British Museum may justly claim the honour of being a principal ornament to the English nation.

Passing the melancholy narration of Dr. Archibald Cameron, who, for the rebellion in 1745, was executed at Tyburn, on the 7th of June 1753, we hasten to relate circumstances of a more congenial nature.

A court of common council having been held on the 20th of December, at which a motion for erecting a new bridge between London and Westminster, was carried by a majority of seven; but the consideration of the best plan, situation, &c. being postponed to a future court, the mouth of Fleet Ditch was fixed upon, which met with great approbation. But when the question came again to be canvassed before the court of common council, on the 22d of February, 1754, a motion was made to repeal the resolution of the 20th of December, relating to the building of a new bridge from London to Southwark: and upon a division, there appeared, for the question ninety-three, against it ninety-five: upon which a committee was appointed of the aldermen, all the deputies, and one commoner out of every ward, to carry it into execution. Thus, by a small majority of only two, was carried a vote for a future improvement and utility of incalculable benefit to the city. A resolution was passed at the same time, to remove the houses, &c. on London Bridge, which had long been an incumbrance and nuisance*.

This year also was propitious to useful science. A noble voluntary association was formed by Lords Folkstone and Romney, the Rev. Dr. Hales, Mr. Shipley, and other liberal minded persons: hence the origin of that noble institution, "The Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce."

* An act passed this year for the relief of Constables labouring under great difficulties, by loss of time and expence in attending upon and conveying offenders to gaol; it was enacted, "That in the county of Middlesex, the overseers of the poor of the parish where the offender shall be apprehended, should pay all charges for conveying him to gaol, and for poor persons bound to give evidence."

On

On the 10th of December, a committee having been appointed, by common council, to prepare a petition to parliament, for removing the Borough Market, then held in the High Street. The petition was drawn up, and immediately presented to the house; and, on the 20th of March following, an act was passed, representing, "That king Edward the Sixth did, by charter, grant to the corporation of London, the right of having a market in the Borough of Southwark; but that the High Street, from London Bridge to St. Margaret's Hill, where that market was kept, being the great thoroughfare from the counties of Surrey, Kent and Sussex, the holding the market there was found an inconvenient stoppage of carriages, and an obstruction to trade: the mayor, aldermen, and commonalty, being therefore desirous of giving up the market, with the profits thereof, it was enacted, that no stands for the sale of provisions should for the future be held in the said High Street, in the Borough of Southwark: and that no coaches or other carriages should stand or ply there for hire." This act was followed by another, on the petition of the inhabitants of Southwark, "enabling the church-wardens, overseers, and inhabitants of the parish of St. Saviour, in the Borough of Southwark, to hold a market near the former spot, but not interfering with the High Street, in a piece of ground called the Triangle."—Many of the houses where the market was kept before the passing of the above act, are still preserved as butchers shops, but the market is held behind the west side of the High Street.

Beside the regulations which took place respecting London Bridge, and of which due mention will be made; an act of great public utility was passed at this sessions of parliament, for making a new road from Islington to Paddington, leading round the suburbs of the city, at a proper distance.

The public spirited Mr. Holland, whom we have already noticed with deserved respect, further exerted himself this year upon a trial of privilege, of the utmost importance to every citizen. Having obtained verdicts in his favour concerning the tolls which had been imposed in an oppressive

and

and arbitrary manner; his example induced other citizens to a determination of opposing the exaction of tolls in the several markets, by which they had been annually robbed to a considerable amount.

The opposition was first made in Newgate Market, by Mr. Ralph Twyford, a butcher, and a freeman of the city; but who, for some years, had declined that business, and carried on the selling of dead victuals by commission, which were sent up to him from different counties, by common carriers, and brought to his house in Newgate Market, by porters in packs, hampers, and baskets, the rent of the house being 30 *l. per annum*.

The toll demanded by the farmers, of the housekeepers who sold such goods by commission, was four pence for every pack of victuals, and one penny for every hamper, basket, or ped*. The manner of collecting this money was very uncertain; sometimes they would demand a sum in gross, and to ascertain it, would form a certain number of packs, hampers, and peds, so to make it up the sum demanded, whereas the people of whom these demands were made, often had more or less: of some was taken, no more than four pence a pack; of others six pence; of others, what they would be pleased to give, and of others nothing.

These exactions led the inhabitants to reflect, that they were freemen of London; that they were housekeepers, and paid large rents; and, as freemen and housekeepers, they had (agreeable to the method Mr. Holland was then taking) an indisputable right to sell their commodities free and exempt from any kind of toll whatsoever; therefore, they determined to pay no exaction for the future.

The consequence of this determination and refusal to pay, produced no less than twelve actions at law, against the housekeepers in this market, who resolved to defend their rights and privileges.

In order to their defence, they had recourse to an act of parliament made the twenty-second of Charles the Second,

* *Ped*, a small pack saddle; hence *Pedlar*, a carrier of goods in small quantities.

intituled, " An act for the building of the city of London, uniting of parishes, and rebuilding of the cathedral and parochial churches within the said city," in which is the following clause :

" That for ever hereafter, the lord mayor and commonalty, and citizens of London, may and shall have a market to be kept three or four days in the week, as to them shall seem convenient, upon the ground now set out by the assent of the dean and chapter of the cathedral of Saint Paul's, London, for a market place within Newgate, and that the said dean and chapter shall make and give one or more lease or leases of the said ground to the said mayor and commonalty, and citizens ; and also of the wall of the said church yard abutting severally upon Pater Noster Row and the Old Change, for the sum of forty pounds *per* year, reserving the yearly rent of four pounds for every superficial foot of ground or soil of the said wall as it is now set out by the surveyors of the city, and of the dean and chapter, and so from forty years for ever, at the like yearly rent ; and one year's rent, after the rates aforesaid, to be paid by way of fine for each of the said grounds respectively, upon the making every new lease thereof, which said lease and leases shall be good and effectual in the law, as against the said dean and chapter, and their successors, and all persons claiming by, from, or under them ; and that no house, shed, or other building, shall stand or hereafter be erected and fixed upon the said market place, other than the market house already built, without the consent of the said dean and chapter, any thing in this or any other act to the contrary notwithstanding."

In pursuance of this act, the dean and chapter of Saint Paul's, from time to time, had granted leases of the said market to the lord mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London. An abstract of the last lease is as follows :

" Indenture, dated April 6, 1749, between the right reverend father in God Joseph, lord bishop of Bristol, dean of the cathedral church of St. Paul, in London, and the chapter of the same church, of one part ; and the mayor, commonalty,

commonalty, and citizens of London, of the other part; in consequence of the surrender of a former lease of indenture, dated the 6th of April 1709, and of or in the pieces or parcels of ground thereafter mentioned, granted by the worshipful Henry Godolphin, doctor in divinity, then dean of the said cathedral, and the then chapter, unto the said lord mayor, &c. did demise, &c. all that and those piece or parcel of ground adjoining together, as the same is and are designed, marked, admeasured, and set out for the holding and keeping a market, situate, lying, and being between Warwick Lane and Ivy Lane, in the parish of St. Faith the Virgin, in London, containing in the whole by admeasurement twenty-three thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven superficial feet of assize; and also all the pieces or parcels of ground which are allotted, marked, set out, and designed for passages, ways, and avenues into, out, and from the said market, as is and are thereafter mentioned; which said market place abutteth east unto and upon other ground of the said dean, &c. now or late in the occupation of Sir John Osborn, Bart. or his under tenants; in, upon, and through which is a way or passage of ten feet broad admeasured, marked or set out to lead from the said market place into Ivy Lane aforesaid, by admeasurement nine hundred and sixty superficial feet; and the said ground designed for the said market abutteth west unto and upon other grounds of the said dean, &c. then or late in the several tenures of John Amhesrt; in, upon and through which is another passage or way of eighteen feet broad, marked, admeasured and set out to lead from the said market place into Warwick Lane aforesaid, containing by admeasurement one thousand four hundred and twenty-two superficial feet; north unto and upon other ground of, &c. then or late in the occupation of the said Sir John Osborn, in, upon, and through which, part of another way or passage of eighteen feet broad is marked, admeasured, and set out, to lead from the said market in Newgate Street, containing, &c. seven hundred and eleven superficial feet; south upon other ground of, &c. in the tenure, &c. of Wil-

liam Watson, Esq. Daniel Shetterdan, Esq. in, upon, and through which is another way or passage of ten feet broad, marked, admeasured, and set out to lead from the said market place into Paternoster Row, containing by admeasurement seven hundred and ten superficial feet, except and reserved out of this present lease and demise unto the said dean, &c. and their successors, tenants, or assigns, free liberty to build over the said two ways or passages of ten feet broad, leading into Ivy Lane, and into Paternoster Row, at both ends of either of the said ways or passages, sixteen feet deep, or thereabouts, from the first story above ground as high as the adjacent ground, and to be laid unto and used with any of the next adjoining houses or tenements, to hold for forty years, at the yearly rent of 4*l*."

The present farmers obtained an under lease from the city of this market, upon paying a fine and a certain annual rent, and therefore insisted they were intitled to all the ground to the upright of all the houses which environed the market; and that no persons whatsoever occupying the business of a butcher, or selling meat, had any right even to put out-hooks to hang their meat, without paying toll.

As the act of the twenty-second of Charles II. directs, that "the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London, shall have a market as therein is described," surely the housekeepers, as citizens, and all other citizens of London, had a right to a free use of this market. In this act there is no notice of toll; and however the farmers of this and other markets, claiming under the mayor and commonalty of the city of London, might have set up such kind of demand, it was certainly intended to affect such persons only (non-freemen) who brought into the market various commodities out of the country to sell, and were, consequently, provided by the farmers with stalls, standings, boards, trussels, weights, scales, &c. but this could not have been applicable to the housekeepers, who furnished themselves with all those necessaries abstractedly from the farmers.

Whereupon it was thought necessary to have a proper survey taken by two able surveyors, who performed it in
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the most accurate manner; by which it was demonstrable that the twenty-three thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven superficial feet, granted by the dean and chapter of St Paul's to the city of London, by the case above-mentioned, comprehended the whole of the ground as the same was designed, marked, admeasured and set out for the holding and keeping a market, exclusive and leaving a way or passage of eight feet eight inches to the fronts of all the houses round the market.

The absurdity of the proposition set down by these farmers, was evident; and that it could be conceived a number of respectable inhabitants, holding houses of large rents, had no entrance into those houses without an additional rent to the farmers, as well as for the ground before their tenements, is only necessary to be mentioned to be refuted. The cause of right was however tried at Guildhall, in the court of Common Pleas, in July; the plaintiffs were nonsuited, and the market has ever since continued, as it ought to be, free and unmolested.

Various beneficial acts respecting the city were passed in the year 1755. These were, an act "to vest Montague House in trustees; and enabling them to convey it to the trustees of the British Museum for a general repository. Another to prevent the holding of any market in the High Street in the Borough of Southwark,; and another for establishing a ferry across the Thames, from Narrow Street, in Limehouse parish, to the east end of Rotherhithe, by which an easy and short communication is maintained for horses and carriages between the roads on the north side of the Thames east of London, and all the counties of Surrey and Kent."

Mr. John Miles, an eminent wheelwright near Bishopsgate, having been about this time indicted on the statute 5th Elizabeth, for using and exercising the trade of a coachmaker and coach harness maker, not having served seven years apprenticeship, in which the king was plaintiff; the cause was tried on the twelfth of July at Guildhall, before

fore chief justice Ryder and a special jury, when, after a trial of four hours and upwards, he obtained a verdict in his favour.

At a court of common council held the eighteenth of December, the petition for a new bridge at Blackfriars, which had been prepared by the committee appointed for that purpose, was agreed to by a majority of thirty-four; and Mr. Sheriff Whitbread was ordered to present the same to the house. This petition was accordingly presented on the thirteenth of January following; and an act of parliament was soon after passed for that purpose. By this act the lord mayor, aldermen and common council were directed "to form the said bridge in such a manner, as that there should remain a free and open passage of seven hundred and fifty feet at least for the water through the arches within the banks of the river; and that no buildings, except the proper gates and toll-houses, be erected thereon. The said mayor, &c. were empowered to make, widen, and enlarge such streets, ways, and passages, as they should think necessary to and from the said bridge, and to agree with the owners and occupiers of such lands, tenements, and hereditaments, as they should think proper to be purchased, removed, or pulled down for that purpose. The act also provided, that a proper number of lamps be fixed on the said bridge, and a number of watchmen appointed for the safety of the passengers. And to defray the expences of attending the completion of this undertaking, the mayor, &c. were empowered, after the bridge should be finished, to appoint a toll*.

* This toll was not to exceed the following rate :

	s.	d.
For every coach, chariot, berlin, chaise or calash, drawn by six or more horses	2	0
For every coach, &c. drawn by four horses	1	6
Less than four horses	1	0
For every waggon, wain, carr, cart or carriage, drawn by four or more horses, or other beasts	1	0
Less than four	0	6
For every horse, mule, or ass, laden or unladen, not drawing	0	1
For every foot passenger, on Sunday	0	1
On every other day	0	0½

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The mayor, &c. were empowered to raise, on the credit of the toll, any sum, not exceeding 30,000*l. per annum*, until 160,000*l.* should be raised, to be applied to the purposes of the act. They were likewise farther empowered to fill up the channel of Bridewell Dock, between Fleet Bridge and the Thames, and to take away the bridge cross the said channel, making proper drains and sewers into the river."

The year 1756 was productive of a scheme, projected by that friend of his country and of mankind, Jonas Hanway, Esq. by which the nation was benefited, friendless orphans protected and relieved; at the same time that they became the adopted children of the public, and were rendered useful members of society. This great and good man, jointly with Justice Fielding, Justice Welsh, and several merchants, &c. formed themselves into a voluntary association, denominated THE MARINE SOCIETY, for the cloathing and fitting out such orphan, friendless and destitute boys, as were willing to engage in the service of the navy. This excellent scheme was prosecuted with such zeal, that many hundreds were then, and many thousands have since been, rescued from an abandoned course of life, and rendered serviceable to their king and country*.

In the course of this year several resolutions in common council were passed, respecting the improvement of London Bridge, and the foundation of that at Blackfriars; but as they are more peculiarly adapted to the topographical portion of our undertaking, they are omitted in this place.

But in 1757, a petition was presented by the sheriffs on the twelfth of February at the bar of the House of Commons, respecting the fishery in the river Thames. It was alledged in the petition, "that the office of bailiff and conservator of the river Thames, and waters of Medway, had been time out of mind vested in the mayor and commonalty and citizens of the said city, to be exercised by the mayor, or his sufficient deputies; and reciting the provisions of an act passed in the ninth of Queen Anne, "for the better pre-

* The court of common council, on the 12th of December 1758, ordered 500*l.* to be given as a benefaction to this society.

servation and improvement of the fishery within the river of Thames, and for regulating and governing the company of fishermen of the said river; and alledging that the said company had ceased to act since the year 1727, and that the body of fishermen were then under no government or regulation; in consequence whereof frequent abuses were committed, to the prejudice of the fishery within the said river; which abuses could not be prevented or redressed without the aid of parliament; therefore it prayed that leave might be given to bring in a bill for the more effectual preservation and improvement of the fry and spawn of fish in the said river of Thames, and waters of Medway, and for the better regulating the fishery thereof, and more speedy punishment of offenders, in such manner as to the house should seem meet."

Soon after the presentation of this petition, a bill was brought in and passed, the purport of which was, " That the lord mayor and aldermen of London shall have full power, and they are hereby required, to make, and set down in writing, such reasonable rules and ordinances for the governing and regulating all persons who shall fish or dredge in the river of Thames and waters of Medway (within the jurisdiction of the mayor of London, as conservator of the said river and waters) as common fishermen or dredgermen, or otherwise; and for declaring in what manner they shall demean themselves in fishing, and with manner of nets and engines, and at what times and seasons they shall use fishing; for ascertaining the assize of the several fish to be taken; and for the preservation of the spawn and fry of fish within the jurisdiction aforesaid: also of obliging every common fisherman, or dredgerman, or other such person, who fish with a boat, &c. to have his christian name and surname, and the name of the place where he dwelleth, painted in large and legible characters, in some convenient place of his boat, &c. where any one may see and read the same, and for preventing the same from being changed or defaced: to annex reasonable penalties and forfeitures for the breach of such rules, not exceeding 5*l.* for any

any offence, and from time to time to alter and amend such rules, and to make new ones, touching the matters aforesaid ; so as the same be allowed and approved of by the lord chancellor, lord keeper, or commissioners of the great seal, the two lord chief justices, and the lord chief baron, or any two of them, &c."

There are besides several excellent regulations for enforcing the purposes of the act ; and by the last clause it is enacted, " That this act shall not authorize the lord mayor, or court of lord mayor and aldermen, or the water bailiff, or any other person, to grant licences, or to make any rules whereby any licence shall be required to be taken by any fisherman, dredgerman, or other person ; or whereby any gratuity or compensation shall be payable ; or whereby any fisherman, dredgerman, or other such person shall be obliged to appear before the lord mayor, water bailiff, or other person, to enter his name in any register, or other book ; or whereby he shall be limited or restrained from keeping any number of boys in any one boat, as he shall judge proper ; any thing in the said act of the 9th Queen Anne, or any other statute or usage to the contrary notwithstanding."

Whilst the improvements of London Bridge were carried on, a temporary bridge of timber was ordered to be erected on the western sterlings, formed in a curve, and to be opened into the entrances at each end. This bridge having been compleated in the month of October 1757, was opened as a very safe and convenient passage into the Borough of Southwark. But to the utter astonishment of the whole city, the building burst into a sudden blaze on the eleventh of April 1758, and continued burning till noon the next day, when the ruins fell into the river. A total stop was thus put to all trade depending on the intercourse between London and Southwark, except what could be carried on by boats.

No doubt remained but that the fire was occasioned by the villainous endeavours of incendiaries ; this suspicion was

confirmed by the watchmen at the Steel Yard, the Custom House Key, and several other persons, who declared, that about eleven o'clock they observed some lights under the bridge, which appeared in several places like candles in lanthorns, and that soon after this, the building burst into flames from one end to the other; the consequence was, that the remaining part of the bridge was strictly guarded by a nightly watch, in order to secure it from future accidents.

The result of this iniquitous circumstance was that the parliament soon after passed an act to amend the former one for repairing London Bridge; in which they granted "15,000*l.* for that purpose, repealed the tolls imposed for passage over and under the bridge, and enacted, that persons wilfully attempting to destroy any part of the bridge, or of the works belonging to it, should suffer death without the benefit of clergy."

London experienced an affecting loss on the sixteenth of July, when the father of the city, Sir John Barnard, requested that the court of aldermen would permit him to resign his gown, on account of his age and infirm state of health. It was with reluctance that the court of aldermen could part with such a virtuous and patriotic member; and to shew the high sense of gratitude which was due to his conduct, it was, on the twenty-fifth unanimously resolved by the common council, who had voted a statue to perpetuate his memory under the piazza of the Royal Exchange, "That Sir John Barnard, Knt. so justly and emphatically stiled the father of this city, having lately (to the great and lasting regret of this court) thought proper to resign the office of alderman, the thanks of this court be given him, for having so long and so faithfully devoted himself to the service of his fellow-citizens, for the honour and influence which this city has, upon many occasions, derived from the dignity of his character, and the wisdom, steadiness, and integrity of his conduct: for his firm adherence to the constitution both in church and state, his
noble

noble struggles for liberty, and his disinterested and invariable pursuit of the true glory and prosperity of his king and country, uninfluenced by power, unawed by clamour, and unbiassed by the prejudice of party."

The committee appointed to carry the act of parliament into execution for building a bridge across the river Thames from Blackfriars, delivered to the court of common council, on the 28th of June 1759, a representation in writing, under the hands of six aldermen and twenty commoners, which was in substance as follows :

" 1. That it is the opinion of this committee, that the intended bridge should be of stone.

" 2. That from the evidence given to parliament, upon the application for an act to build the said bridge, it is the opinion of this committee, that an elegant, substantial, and convenient stone bridge may be erected for a sum not exceeding 120,000*l*.

" 3. That, from estimates laid before us, it is the opinion of this committee, that proper avenues to the said bridge may be purchased and completed for a sum not exceeding 24,000*l*.

" 4. That it is the opinion of this committee, that a sum not exceeding 144,000*l*. should be forthwith contracted for, and raised within the space of eight years, by such installments as this committee shall think proper in each year, not exceeding 30,000*l*. in any one year; the money to be contracted for to be paid into the chamber of London.

" 5. That it is the opinion of this committee, that the persons contracting to advance the said money should be entitled to an interest of 4*l*. *per cent. per annum*, by way of annuities, to be computed from the time of the first payment in each year upon the whole sum by them respectively advanced within the year, but should name such forfeiture as this committee shall see fit, in case of neglect, to make good any of the stipulated sums: the said annuities to be paid half yearly by the chamberlain, but to be redeemable at the expiration of the first ten years upon six months notice, and payment of the money advanced.

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" 6. That

“ 6. That it is the opinion of this committee, that the chamberlain should be authorized and directed to affix the city’s seal to such instrument as the committee should think fit to give, pursuant to the said act for securing the payment of the said annuities, redeemable as aforesaid, and which shall be transacted and paid for in manner before mentioned.

“ 7. That it is the opinion of this committee, that the chamberlain should be authorized and directed to pay and apply the monies so to be paid in for the purposes of the said act, in such a manner as this committee shall from time think fit and order.

“ 8. That it is the opinion of this committee, that the chamberlain should be authorized and directed to lay out and apply the sheriffs fines, appropriated by order of the court of common council for the purposes of the said act, either in the public funds, in order to carry interest, or to payment of the said annuities, or otherwise, as this committee shall from time to time think fit and order. And it was ordered that the court of common council be moved, pursuant to the last five resolutions.”

Another court of common council was appointed for the nineteenth, at which were upwards of two hundred members ; and the said affairs of the new bridge was considered, and strongly debated ; they divided three several times, and there being on each division a majority of forty and upwards, they were agreed to.

To connect the particulars of our narrative it is necessary to remark, that the power of the French in Germany having been very considerable ; and that to defeat their designs against Great Britain and her allies, it was requisite that continual recruits should be raised to supply the great draughts of men from these realms. The lord mayor, Sir Richard Glyn, Bart. summoned a court of common council to meet on the fourteenth of August, when his lordship informed the court that he had called them together to deliberate on a proposition of great consequence to the service
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of their king and country, and hoped that the result would be such as should do honour to the city by proving the sincerity of their professions to his majesty.

In consequence of his lordship's proposition, the court, among other considerations, resolved and ordered, "that voluntary subscriptions should be received in the chamber of London, to be appropriated as bounty-money to such persons as entered into his majesty's service, and that the city should subscribe 1000*l.* for that purpose." It was also resolved, "that a committee of twelve aldermen, and twenty-four commoners, should be appointed to attend at Guildhall, to dispose of the said bounty-money to persons who should apply for the same; and, as a farther encouragement, every person so entering should be entitled to the freedom of the city of London at the expiration of three years, or sooner, if the war should end before that time:" and the town-clerk was ordered by the court to wait on the right honourable Mr. Pitt with the said resolutions, and to desire him to inform his majesty of the same. Some of the committee were ordered to wait on Lord Ligonier, to desire him to send proper officers to Guildhall to receive such persons as should be enlisted.

The town-clerk, agreeably to the order of the court, waited on Mr. Pitt, who, the next day, sent the following letter:

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of the City of London.

"MY LORD, *Whitehall, Aug. 15, 1759.*

"Having, in consequence of the desire of the court of common council, had the honour to lay before the king their resolutions of yesterday, for offering certain bounties and encouragements to such able-bodied men as shall enlist themselves at the Guildhall of London, to serve in his majesty's land forces, upon the terms contained in his majesty's order in council; I am commanded by the king to acquaint your lordship, that his majesty thanks the city of London for this fresh testimony of their zeal and affection
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for his royal person and government. I am farther commanded by the king to express his majesty's most entire satisfaction in this signal proof of the unshaken resolution of the city of London to support a just and necessary war, undertaken in defence of the rights and honour of his crown, and for the security of the colonies, trade and navigation of Great Britain.

" I am, with great truth and respect,

" My Lord,

" Your lordship's most obedient humble servant,

" W. PITT.

A subscription was immediately opened at Guildhall, which met with such universal encouragement as to answer the purposes of the scheme projected; for by giving five guineas to each person who should voluntarily offer himself for his majesty's service, and a promise that he should be admitted a freeman of London without fee or reward, upon producing a testimonial of his good behaviour from a general officer, great numbers immediately offered and were enlisted; and by an account afterwards published, it appeared that the Guildhall subscription amounted to 7039*l.* 7*s.* which procured one thousand two hundred and thirty-five recruits for his majesty's service.

This example was followed by the city of Westminster and county of Middlesex. On the nineteenth of September, a great number of the nobility, gentry, &c. met at the St. Alban's tavern, when a subscription was raised, amounting to 4726*l.* for the same purpose, with this restriction in favour of the men so enlisted: that they should not be sent out of Great Britain; and that they should have their discharge in three years, or at the close of the war.

The debates, which had so long engaged the common council concerning the new bridge, at last operated upon the understanding of the ruling part of the city; and they soon perceived that, unless proper measures were taken to make the city of London more airy and commodious for the mercantile and genteel part of its inhabitants before the proposed bridge should be finished, they might be compelled to resort

resort to the new buildings on the Surrey side of the river, whereby the estates in the city would inevitably be ruined; it was found expedient, therefore, immediately to adopt such measures as should be thought most advantageous for preserving the health and comfort of the inhabitants. For this purpose the new common council, at their first meeting on the 22d of January 1760, came to a resolution, "that an application should be made to parliament for a bill to empower the city to make such alterations in regard to the avenues leading into it, as should be thought necessary, and might tend to its advantage. A petition was therefore presented, and parliament immediately granted their request.

By the act which passed this sessions for openings in various parts of the city, the following improvements were ordered, but have not been altogether completed.

In Aldersgate Ward. A passage twenty feet wide, from the east side of Aldersgate Street (opposite to Little Britain) to the west of Noble Street, opposite to Oat Lane; and through Wood Street, opposite to Love Lane. This has not been done, though an opening has been since made, now called Falcon Square.

In Aldgate Ward. A passage fifty feet wide, from the mason's shop facing Crutched Friars, in a direct line to the Minories. Now a fine street through America Square.

A passage twenty-five feet wide, through Northumberland Alley, into Crutched Friars. Not done.

In Bishopsgate Ward. A passage twenty-five feet wide, through Angel Court, in Bishopsgate Street, into Little St. Helen's. Not done.

A passage twenty feet wide, from Broad Street, through Union Court, into Bishopsgate Street. Not done.

In Coleman Street Ward. A passage fifty feet wide, from Tokenhouse Yard to London Wall. Not done.

In Farringdon Ward Without. A passage thirty feet wide, in the middle of Snow Hill to the Fleet Market. This improvement has recently taken place in Skinner Street, &c.

A passage twenty-five feet wide, from Butcherhall Lane into Little Britain. Not done.

In

In *Farringdon Ward Within*. A passage through Cock Alley, on Ludgate Hill, opposite to the Old Bailey, forty feet wide, into Blackfriars. Not done.

THE FOLLOWING PASSAGES TO BE IMPROVED AND ENLARGED.

In *Aldgate Ward*. The east side of Billiter Lane, to enlarge the passage thirty feet.

The east end of Leadenhall Street to be thirty-five feet wide.

Part of the houses on the east side of Poor Jury Lane, beginning at the north side of the Horse and Trumpet, and extending to Gould Square, to range in a line with that end of the lane next to Aldgate; the passage to be made thirty-five feet wide.

In *Broad Street Ward*. The house to be pulled down at the west end of the buildings, between Cornhill and Threadneedle Street, opposite to the south end of Prince's Street, and the ground laid into the street. The improvements at the Bank have obviated this.

Houses to be pulled down on the south side of Threadneedle Street, extending from the houses before-mentioned eastward, till that part of the street opposite to the Bank gates; and the passage there to be enlarged to thirty-five feet in width. This done in Bank Buildings, &c.

In *Coleman Street Ward*. One house on the north-east corner of the Old Jury; and another house at the south-west corner of Coleman Street, and the ground laid into the street.

In *Cordwainer's Ward*. The house at the north-east corner of Trinity Lane, near the Dog tavern, to be pulled down, and the ground laid into the street. Not done.

In *Cornhill Ward*. The house at the west end of the buildings, between Cornhill and Lombard Street, and the ground into the street. Not done, and is at present a great obstruction.

In *Cripplegate Ward Within*. The houses which project forwards at the west end of Silver Street, from the end of Monkswell

Monkwell Street, quite through into Aldersgate-street, to make a street forty feet wide. Partially done.

The houses at the corner of Aldermanbury, facing Milk-street, and the ground laid into the street. Not done.

In *Farringdon Ward Within*. The tin shop and the trunkmaker's house, at the south-west corner of Cheapside, leading into St. Paul's church-yard, and the ground laid into the street. Partially complied with, by a sweep at the trunk shop.

Such part of the houses in Creed Lane, as are necessary to widen the passage to thirty feet. Not done.

In *Farringdon Ward Without*. All the houses in Middle Row, between the paved alley adjoining to St. Sepulchre's church and Giltspur Street, from the north end quite through to the south end, facing Hart Street, and the ground laid into the street; and all the houses in the Middle Row, between the Great and Little Old Bailey, from the north end, facing Hart Street, to the Baptist's Head at the south end, facing the Great Old Bailey, and the ground laid into the street. Perfectly complied with, and is an excellent improvement.

The shops under St. Dunstan's church, in Fleet Street, and the ground laid into the street. All removed, except at the east end.

In *Langbourn Ward*. Such part of the houses at the end of Mark Lane, next to Fenchurch Street, as will make the passage there thirty feet wide. Such part of the houses at the east end of Lombard Street, as will make the passage there thirty feet. Not done.

In *Portsoken Ward*. The houses at the north-east corner of Houndsditch, adjoining to the church yard, and the ground laid into the street. Not done.

In *Tower Ward*. Such part of the houses on St. Dunstan's Hill, adjoining to the George public house, and opposite to the Chain; and such part of the warehouses opposite to the end of St. Dunstan's church, as will make the passage thirty feet wide. Not done.

The house on the north-west corner of Great Tower Street; and also the house on the south-east corner of

Little Tower Street, occupied by Messrs. Julon and Lidner, to make a convenient passage. Not done.

The house in Mark Lane, which adjoins to Alballows Staining, and projects twelve feet before the other houses, to make it range in a line with the other houses, and enlarge the passage.

In *Vintry Ward*. The houses on the north end of Thames Street, which reach from Elbow Lane to College Hill, and also those on the south side of the said street, which reach from Vintner's Hall to Bull Wharf Lane, in order to make the street forty feet wide.

The house at the corner of Tower Royal, facing College Hill, to be pulled down, and the ground laid into the street. Not done.

In *Wallbrook Ward*. The house at the north east corner of Bucklersbury, which projects before the other buildings. Not done.

In *Bishopsgate Ward*. The two houses between New Broad Street, and New Broad Street Buildings. This has been adopted.

Besides the improvements proposed to be made in this city by widening certain streets, lanes, and passages, pursuant to an act obtained for that purpose, the committee of City Lands came to a resolution to take down London Wall from Moorgate to Cripplegate, and all the houses from that side of Fore Street, and build a row of new houses on London Wall, widening the whole street twelve feet. There was no necessity for inserting this in the act, it being all in the city's estate.

This year was rendered remarkable by the calamities of fire, a violent hurricane, and by the execution of Earl Ferrers, for the murder of his steward ; but as the recapitulation of similarity is irrelevant to our more immediate object, we proceed to relate, that the several plans having been presented to the committee appointed for managing the new bridge to be erected at Blackfriars, they at length gave the preference to that of Mr. Mylne ; and the first pile for the bridge was driven in the middle of the river, on the 7th of June, 1760.

Among

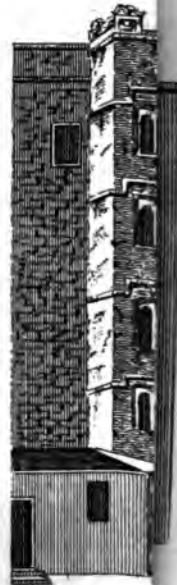
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The CITY GATE

Moor gate



Ludgate



Among other regulations, the city gates were ordered to be pulled down; and the committee sold Aldgate for 177*l.* 10*s.* Cripplegate for 91*l.* and Ludgate for 148*l.* to be pulled down and taken away by the purchaser within a limited time. The statue of queen Elizabeth, which stood on the west side of Ludgate, was purchased by Sir Francis Gosling, alderman of Farringdon Ward Without, and set up against the east end of Saint Dunstan's church, in Fleet Street; where it still continues*.

But

* Several Essays appeared at this time, containing excellent plans for the improvement of various parts of the city, agreeably to the opportunity which then offered. One of these suggested fountains at convenient stations; which, at the same time that they were useful in cases of sudden accidents by fire, would conduce very materially to the ornament of the metropolis. The other was a plan for making squares, and large open streets within the city; which, as many parts of it might at the present day be adopted, we have detailed; as follows:

" White Friars it at present in a very ruinous condition, and of little value to the proprietors; yet there is room to build a stately square, with a garden, in the manner of the Inner Temple, and a beautiful terrace might be formed by wharfing in twenty or thirty yards of the river, which at low water is dry for fifty or sixty yards; and if the ground was raised as in Norfolk Street, there would be no descent to it from Fleet Street.

" In Black Friars, there is room for a large square, on the same plan: and thence through Doctors Commons, Old Fish Street, Trinity Lane, St. Thomas Apostles, and Cloak Lane, as fine a street as any in Westminster, might be formed to Dowgate Hill, which will not only be a nearer, but a better way, from the squares to the Change, than going up Ludgate Hill, and round St. Paul's. It is almost needless to mention that the communication with Surrey and Kent, by Black Friars Bridge, and with Middlesex, Essex, and Hertfordshire, by the New Road, will render the squares not only agreeable to merchants, but also to gentlemen of fortune in the law, who at present live in a very inconvenient manner in chambers, laues, courts, &c. for the sake of being near the inns of court, and public offices.

" Another good square might be formed in New Street, which by its nearness to Fleet Street, and the inns of court, would let well.

" Another square might be formed in Finsbury, which at present is of little value, and which if the sides next Moorfields, were to be left

But whilst the city was profiting by embellishment, and the country exulted in success; whilst the subjects were enjoying the gratification of seeing the arms of Great Britain triumphant over those of the common enemy; whilst mutual unreserved declarations of loyalty, protection, and confidence subsisted between an affectionate sovereign, and an obedient and faithful people; and whilst that people, particularly the citizens of London, were in the midst of joyful exultations for the conquest of Canada, and others recently gained, the whole atmosphere of expanding happiness was clouded by the sudden death of the king.

On Saturday, October 25th, this great and good monarch departed this life, after a glorious and happy reign of thirty-three years, four months, and three days; and wanting only sixteen days of completing the seventy-seventh year of his age. His passage from the world which he had pro-

open, and the upper fields railed in and planted; would by its nearness to the Change, and the conveniency of passing immediately into the country, without going over the stones, be a great inducement to the merchants to settle there.

"A square equal to Devonshire Square might be formed in Duke's Place, which at present brings as little profit as it does honour to the city.

It has been objected, "That the income of the corporation estate is not sufficient to enable them to make every desirable improvement." To which it might be replied, "that if the corporation were empowered to purchase the ruinous buildings upon these premisses, there would not be wanting persons to purchase the ground at such a rate as would indemnify them from any expence, as certainly would be the case in regard to the improvements of Billiter Lane and Threadneedle Street. But admitting that the improvements recommended would be attended with such expence, an additional duty of two pence or three pence per chaldron, on coals, might furnish an ample fund for every purpose, and in regard to private families, would not deserve the name of a tax, which might afterwards be applied to the paying off the money borrowed on Black Friars Bridge, and thereby make it free.

"To conclude, the advantage arising to the citizens from the great sums that must be expended in the city; beside the ease in poors rates and land tax, if the above improvements take place, are too obvious to render it necessary to expatiate thereon."

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tected and secured by his wisdom and prowess, to that of immortality, was transient; an apoplexy put a period to his valuable life.

GEORGE THE SECOND descended to the grave amid the unfeigned lamentations of a people whom he had established in prosperity, and who, therefore, were bound to bless the memory of their benefactor. He had no foe but such as was equally so to the country. His humanity was ever prevalent; and he never signed the death-warrant of a criminal, without shedding a tear of compassion for the errors of human nature. Few of his predecessors exceeded him in justice and moderation; and no one excelled him in justice and piety. He was at once the Monarch, the Hero, and the Christian!—and closed a long and magnanimous reign, by such a series of successful events as must amaze posterity.

The valuable legacy of his triumphant realms, he transmitted to his beloved grandson, our gracious sovereign King GEORGE THE THIRD, who was proclaimed with every wish for a long and prosperous reign, with that unbounded veneration which his great predecessor had unequivocally received from free and loyal subjects; and never with happier circumstances or more general applause, did a prince assume the reins of government.

On the 28th of this month, Sir Thomas Chitty, the lord mayor and aldermen of London waited on the king at Leicester House, and being introduced to his majesty by his grace the Duke of Devonshire, lord Chamberlain of the household, Sir William Moreton, the recorder, made their compliments in the following address:

“ Most gracious Sovereign,

“ Your majesty’s truly dutiful and loyal subjects, the lord mayor and aldermen of the city of London, beg leave to approach your royal person and congratulate your majesty upon your happy accession to the imperial crown of these realms; and, at the same time, to condole the loss of our late most gracious sovereign, whose glorious reign and princely virtues, must ever make his memory dear to a grateful people.

“ It

“ It is our peculiar happiness, that your majesty’s heart is truly English, and that you have discovered in your earliest years the warmest attention to the laws and constitution of these kingdoms ; laws so excellently formed, that as they give liberty to the people, they give power to the prince ; and are a mutual support of the prerogatives of the crown, and the rights of the subject.

“ Your majesty is now in possession of the united hearts of all your people, at a time when the honour and credit of the nation are (by the courage and activity of your majesty’s fleets and armies) in the highest extent ; a time when we have happily no divisions at home to obstruct those measures, which have carried terror to our enemies abroad.

“ As your majesty’s reign is so happily begun with the universal approbation and joy of the whole nation, permit us, great Sir, to express the high sense we have of your majesty’s virtues, by the strongest assurances of our unalterable zeal for your majesty’s sacred person and government ; being convinced, that your majesty has the true interest of this nation entirely at heart, and that your power will be ever exerted in protecting the trade, rights, and liberties of your subjects. May your majesty reign long in the hearts of your people ; and may the crown of these kingdoms ever descend to one of your majesty’s illustrious family to latest posterity.”

To this address his majesty returned the following answer :

“ I have great satisfaction in the early marks you have given of your zeal and affection for me and for my government ; and I return you my hearty thanks. You may rely on my tender concern for the rights, trade, and manufactures of the city of London.”

On the 30th, an address of a similar nature was presented to the king by the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council, in their full corporate capacity ; as also another to the princess dowager of Wales, the king’s mother.

The first acts of the government of George the Third, exhibited the unequivocal marks of patriotism, and his first declaration

declaration in council evinced a mind actuated by the most benign principles. In this declaration, his majesty thus expressed himself :

“ The loss that I and the nation have sustained, by the death of the king, my grandfather, would have been severely felt at any time, but, coming at so critical a juncture, and so unexpected, it is by many circumstances augmented, and the weight now falling upon me much increased : I feel my own insufficiency to support it as I wish ; but, animated by the tenderest affection for this my native country, and depending on the advice, experience, and abilities of your lordships, on the support and assistance of every honest man, I enter with cheerfulness into this arduous situation, and shall make it the business of my life, to promote, in every thing, the glory and happiness of these kingdoms, to preserve and strengthen both the constitution in church and state ; and as I mount the throne in the midst of an expensive, but just and necessary war, I shall endeavour to prosecute it in the manner the most likely to bring on an honourable and lasting peace, in concert with my allies.”

The addresses which flowed from every quarter, were couched in terms of sincere loyalty and duty ; but none breathed more ardently the dictates of heartfelt and pious sentiments, than the following which the venerable Dr. Sherlock, Bishop of London, sent to the king, on the first of November.

“ SIRE,

“ Amidst the congratulations that surround the throne, permit me lay before your majesty, a heart, which, though oppressed with age and infirmity, is no stranger to the joys of my country.

“ When the melancholy news of the late king’s demise reached us, it naturally led us to consider the loss we had sustained, and upon what our hopes of futurity depended : the first part excited grief, and put all the tender passions into motion ; but the second brought life and spirit with it, and wiped the tears from every face. Oh ! how graciously did the Providence of God provide for a successor, able to bear the weight of government in that unexpected event.

“ You,

“ You, Sir, are the person whom the people ardently desire; which affection of theirs is happily returned, by your majesty’s declared concern for their prosperity, and let nothing disturb this mutual consent. Let there be but one contest between them, whether the king loves the people best, or the people him: and may it be a long, a very long contest; may it never be decided, but let it remain doubtful, and may the paternal affection on the one side, and the filial obedience on the other, be had in perpetual remembrance.

“ This will probably be the last time I shall ever trouble your majesty. I beg leave to express my warmest wishes and prayers on your behalf. May the God of heaven and earth have you always under his protection, and direct you to seek his honour and glory in all you do; and may you reap the benefit of it, by an increase of happiness in this world and in the next!”

The ceremony of the first stone of the new bridge took place this day. About one o’clock, the right honourable Sir Thomas Chitty, knt. lord mayor, accompanied by the following aldermen and commoners of the committee for the new bridge, viz. Sir Robert Ladbroke, Mr. Alderman Alsop, Mr. Alderman Dickinson, Sir Richard Glyn, bart. Sir Samuel Fludyer, bart. Mr. Alderman Beckford, Mr. Alderman Alexander, Mr. Alderman Nelson, Sir Francis Gosling, Mr. Deputy Abington, Mr. Deputy Coles, Mr. Deputy Morrey, Mr. Deputy Skinner, Mr. Deputy Paterson, Mr. Deputy Blunt, Mr. Edward Barwick, George Bellas, esquire, Mr. Josiah Colebrooke, Mr. Christopher Fullastar, Mr. Robert Gamon, Mr. Stephen Hunt, Mr. Stephen Preacher, Mr. John Price, Mr. William Prowting, Mr. Roger Staples, Mr. Boyce Tree, Mr. Joseph Sclater, Mr. Thomas Skinner, Mr. Henry Major, and Sir Robert Kite, Alderman, one of the sheriffs, proceeded in state (but without music) to Black Friars, and there, in the north abutment, his lordship laid the first stone of the intended new bridge, by striking the same with a mallet, the officers laying the city sword and mace thereon at the same time, in the sight of an infinite number of spectators,

tators, who, midst the firing of several rounds of cannon, placed there for that purpose, and the bells ringing, expressed their joy by loud and reiterated exclamations of applause.

Several pieces of gold, silver, and copper coin, of his late majesty, (viz. a five-guinea piece, a two-guinea piece, a guinea, and a half-guinea, a crown, a half-crown, a shilling, a sixpence, a halfpenny, a farthing; to ascertain, at a future distant period, the standard of the coin in the late reign) were placed under the stone, together with the following inscriptions, in large plates of pure tin :

Ultimo die Octobris, anno ab incarnatione
M.DCC.LX.

auspicatissimo principe GEORGIO Tertio
regnum jam inuente,

Pontus hujus, in reipublicæ commodum
urbisq; majestatem,

(Laté tum flagrante bello)

à S. P. Q. L. suscepti,

Primum Lapidem posuit

THOMAS CHITTY, Miles,

Prætor :

ROBERTO MYLNE Architecto.

Utque apud posteros extet monumentum

voluntatis suæ erga virum,

qui vigore ingenii, animi constantiâ,

probitatis & virtutis suæ felici quadam contagione,

(favente Deo

faustisq; GEORGI Secundi auspiciis)

Imperium Britannicum

in Asiâ, Africâ, & Americâ,

restituit, auxit, & stabilivit,

Necnon patriæ antiquum honorem & auctoritatem,

inter Europæ gentes instauravit

Cives Londinenses, uno consensu,

Huic Ponti inscribi voluerunt nomen

GULIELMI PITT.

LONDON.

[Translation.]

On the last day of October, in the year 1760,
and in the beginning of the most auspicious reign of
GEORGE the Third,

Sir THOMAS CHITTY, Knight, Lord Mayor,
laid the first stone of this bridge,
Undertaken by the Common council of London,
(amidst the rage of an extensive war)
for the public accommodation
and ornament of the city :

ROBERT MYLNE being the Architect.

And, that there might remain to posterity
monument of this City's affections to the man
who, by the strength of his genius,
the steadiness of his mind,

and a certain kind of happy contagion of his
probity and spirit,

(under the Divine favour,
and fortunate auspices of GEORGE the Second)
recovered, augmented, and secured
the British empire,

in Asia, Africa, and America,

And restored the ancient reputation
and influence of his country
amongst the nations of Europe,

The Citizens of London have unanimously voted this
bridge to be inscribed with the name of

WILLIAM PITT.

With the coin placed under the foundation-stone was a silver
medal, given to Mr. Mylne, the Architect, by the Academy of
St. Luke, with a copper rim round it, having the following in-
scriptions :

On one side,

In Architectura Præstantiæ Præmium (ipsa Roma Judice)
Roberto Mylne Juvenii Britannico datum 1758.

And on the other side,

Robertus Mylne Pontis hujus Architecton grato
Animo posuit.

The

The solemn interment of the late monarch took place on Tuesday the eleventh of November. The royal body having been conveyed from Kensington, to the Prince's Chamber, near the House of Peers, the night before the funeral, was carried thence to Westminster in the following procession :

Knight-marshal's men, with black staves, two and two.	Gentlemen-ushers	Quarter-waiters.
Pages of the Presence.	Pages of Honour.	
Pages of the Back Stairs.	Grooms of the Privy Chamber.	
Pages of the Bed-chamber.	Gentleman-usher Assistant.	
Yeoman of the Robes.	Gentlemen-ushers Daily-waiters.	
Household Chaplains to the King.	Physicians to the King.	
Deputy Clerks of the Closet.	Two Pursuivants.	
Equerries to his late Majesty.	Barons of Ireland.	
Clerks Comptrollers and Clerks of the Green-Cloth.	Barons of Great Britain.	
The Master of the King's Household.	Bishops in their robes.	
Gentlemen-ushers of the Privy Chamber.	Marquisses younger sons.	
King's Council, King's Sergeants.	Earls eldest sons.	
King's Solicitor, King's Attorney.	A Pursuivant.	
Prime Sergeant.	Viscounts of Ireland.	
Barons younger sons.	Viscounts of Great Britain.	
Viscounts younger sons.	Dukes younger sons.	
Barons of the Exchequer and Justices of both Benches according to their seniority.	Marquisses eldest sons.	
Lord Chief Justice of the Common-pleas walked as a Privy-counsellor.	One Herald of Arms.	
Lord Chief Baron, of the Common-pleas walked as a Privy-counsellor.	Earls of Ireland.	
Master of the Rolls walked as a Privy-counsellor,	Earls of Great Britain.	
Lord Chief Justice of the King's bench, being a Peer, walked as such.	Earl of Effingham, as exercising the office of Earl-marshal of England.	
Bath King at Arms.	Dukes eldest sons.	
Knights of the Bath not Lords nor Privy-counsellors.	One Herald of Arms.	
Privy-counsellors not Peers of the realm.	Marquisses.	
Barons eldest sons.	One Herald of Arms.	
Earls younger sons.	Dukes.	
Viscounts eldest sons.	One Herald of Arms.	
The Comptroller of the King's Household, with his staff, being a Peer, walked as such,	Dukes having great offices.	
The Treasurer of the King's Household, with his staff, being a Peer of Ireland, walked as such.	Lord Privy Seal.	
	Lord President of the Council.	
	Lord Archbishop of York	
	(No train borne.)	
	Lord Keeper, bearing the purse,	
	(No train borne, nor mace carried.)	
	Lord Archbishop of Canterbury	
	(No train borne.)	
	Norroy King of Arms.	
	Master of the Horse.	
Second Gentlemen usher Daily-waiter.	Clarenceux King of Arms, carrying the crown on a purple velvet cushion.	First Gentleman-usher Daily-waiter.

Lord Chamberlain of the Household, with his white staff.

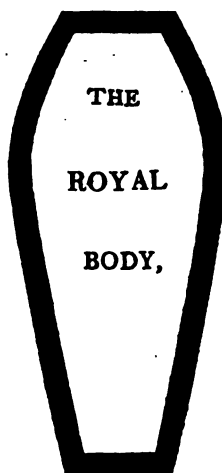
On this side.

On this side.

Ten Gentlemen-pensioners, with their axes reversed.

The canopy borne by Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber.

Supporters of the pall, three Dukes.



Ten Gentlemen-pensioners, with their axes reversed.

The canopy borne by Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber.

Supporters of the pall, three Dukes.

The body was carried by twelve Yeomen of the Guard, and covered with a large pall of purple velvet, lined with purple silk, and a fine holland sheet. The coffin being adorned with ten large escutcheons of the Imperial arms, painted on satin, under a canopy of purple velvet.

Gentleman-usher.

Garber Principal King of Arms.

Gentleman-usher of the Black Rod, the rod reversed.

Supporter to the Chief Mourner, a Duke.

The CHIEF MOURNER, his train borne by two Dukes, assisted by the Vice-chamberlain.

Supporter to the Chief Mourner, a Duke.

Two Dukes and fourteen Earls, Assistants to the Chief Mourner.

First Gentleman-usher of the Privy Chamber.

The Grooms of the Bed-chamber.

Groom of the Stole.

Lords of the Bed-chamber.

The remaining part of the band of Gentlemen-pensioners, with their axes reversed.

Second Gentleman-usher of the Privy Chamber.

Yeomen of the guard to close the procession.

The Master of the Robes.

N. B. The Knights of the Garter, Thistle, and Bath, who walked in this procession, wore the collars of their respective orders.

The cavalcade proceeded from the Prince's Chamber through the Old Palace Yard, on foot, to the great north door of the Abbey; the way was railed in on both sides, and floored, twenty feet wide, being covered with an awning, with black baize on the floor and under the awning; and the whole way to the Abbey, and in the Abbey, to the steps leading to King Henry the Seventh's Chapel, was lined on each side with the foot-guards.

The

The procession, having entered the church, passed along to the end of the north isle, then crossed the nave to the south isle, and thence to the steps, and there fell off on each side, until the Judges, the Knights of the Bath, the Privy-counsellors, the Peers, the Body, and Chief Mourner, &c. were placed in King Henry the Seventh's chapel.

At the entrance, within the church, the Dean and Prebendaries in their copes, attended by the choir, all having wax tapers in their hands, received the royal body, and fell into the procession just before Clarencieux King of Arms, and so proceeded singing a solemn dirge into the Chapel, where the body was deposited on tressels (the crown and cushion being laid at the head) and the canopy held over it by the Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber, while the service, according to the liturgy of the Church of England, was read by the Bishop of Rochester, Dean of Westminster; and the Chief Mourner and his two Supporters were seated on chairs placed for them at the head of the corpse, and the Lords Assistants seated on stools on each side; whilst the Lords of the Bed-chamber, &c. were seated, and the Peers and other attendants took their seats in the stalls on each side of the choir.

When the part of the service before the interment was read, the royal corpse was carried to the vault, preceded by the Lord Chamberlain of the Houshold; the Chief Mourner, his Supporters and Assistants following, Garter going before them, and White-staff Officers of his late Majesty's Houshold, placed themselves near the vault.

The following INSCRIPTION in Latin was put upon his late Majesty's Coffin:

Depositum
Serenissimi, Potentissimi, et Excellentissimi Monarchæ,
GEORGII SECUNDI,
Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniae, et Hiberniæ, Regis, Fidei Defensoris; Ducis Brunsvici et Luneburgi, Sacri Romani Imperii

IN ENGLISH.
Here lie deposited
The remains of the most Serene, most Mighty, and most Excellent Monarch,
GEORGE the SECOND,
By the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith; Duke of Brunswic and Lunenburg,

perii Archi-Thesaurarii et Principis Electoris.	nenburg, Arch-treasurer and Prince Elector of the Holy Roman Empire.
Obiit die 25 Octobris, Anno Domini 1760, ætatis suæ 77, regniq; sui 34.	He died the 25th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1760, in the 77th year of his age, and in the 34th year of his reign.

The royal corpse being interred, the Dean of Westminster went on with the office of burial; which ended with a solemn anthem, sung in the choir, and composed by Dr. William Boyce, Master of his Majesty's band of musicians.

Afterwards Garter King of Arms proclaimed his late Majesty's stile as followeth:

"Thus it hath pleased Almighty God to take out of this transitory life, unto his Divine Mercy, the late most High, most Mighty, and most Excellent Monarch, George the Second, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and Sovereign of the most Noble order of the Garter, Duke of Brunswic and Lunenburg, Arch-treasurer and Elector of the Holy Roman empire.

"Let us beseech Almighty God to bless and preserve, with long life, health, and honour, and all worldly happiness, the most High, most Mighty, and most Excellent Monarch, our Sovereign Lord George the Third, now, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and Sovereign of the most Noble order of the Garter, Duke of Brunswic and Lunenburg, Arch-treasurer and Elector of the Holy Roman empire.

"GOD save King GEORGE the Third."

"On the eighteenth of the same month, king George III. at the meeting of parliament, addressed his first speech indicative of the rule of government he intended to pursue. This being the most remarkable in the present reign, we give it at length:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"The just concern which I have felt in my own breast on the sudden death of the late king, my royal grandfather, makes

makes me not doubt but you must all have been deeply affected with so severe a loss. The present critical and difficult conjuncture has made this loss the more sensible, as he was the great support of that system, by which alone the liberties of Europe, and the weight and influence of these kingdoms, can be preserved; and gave life to the measures conducive to these important ends.

“ I need not tell you the addition of weight which immediately falls upon me, in being called to the government of this free and powerful country at such a time, and under such circumstances. My consolation is in the uprightness of my own intentions, your faithful and united assistance, and the blessings of Heaven upon our joint endeavours, which I devoutly implore.

“ *Born and educated in this country, I GLORY IN THE NAME OF BRITON; and the peculiar happiness of my life will ever consist in promoting the welfare of a people whose loyalty and warm affection to me I conceive as the greatest and most permanent security of my Throne; and I doubt not but their steadiness in those principles will equal the firmness of my invariable resolution to adhere to, and strengthen this excellent constitution in Church and State, and to maintain the toleration inviolable. The civil and religious rights of my loving subjects are equally dear to me with the most valuable prerogatives of my crown: and, as the surest foundation of the whole, and the best means to draw down the Divine favour on my reign, it is my fixed purpose to countenance and encourage the practice of true religion and virtue.*

“ I reflect with pleasure on the successes with which the British arms have been prospered this last summer. The total reduction of the vast province of Canada, with the city of Montreal, is of the most interesting consequence, and must be as heavy a blow to my enemies as it is a conquest glorious to us; the more glorious, because effected almost without effusion of blood, and with that humanity which makes an amiable part of the character of this nation.

“ Our advantages gained in the East Indies have been signal, and must greatly diminish the strength and trade of
France

France in those parts, as well as procure the most solid benefits to the commerce and wealth of my subjects.

“ In Germany, where the whole French force has been employed, the combined army, under the wise and able conduct of my general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswic, has not only stopped their progress, but has gained advantages over them, notwithstanding their boasted superiority, and their not having hitherto come to a general engagement.

“ My good brother and ally, the King of Prussia, although surrounded with numerous armies of enemies, has, with a magnanimity and perseverance almost beyond example, not only withstood their various attacks, but has obtained very considerable victories over them.

“ Of these events I shall say no more at this time, because the nature of the war in those parts has kept the campaign there still depending.

“ As my navy is the principal article of our natural strength, it gives me much satisfaction to receive it in such good condition; whilst the fleet of France is weakened to such a degree, that the small remains of it have continued blocked up by my ships in their own ports; at the same time the French trade is reduced to the lowest ebb; and with joy of heart I see the commerce of my kingdoms, that great source of our riches, and fixed object of my never-failing care and protection, flourishing to an extent unknown in any former war.

“ The valour and intrepidity of my officers and forces, both at sea and land, have been distinguished so much to the glory of this nation, that I should be wanting in justice to them if I did not acknowledge it. This is a merit which I shall constantly encourage and reward; and I take this occasion to declare, that the zealous and useful service of the militia, in the present arduous conjuncture, is very acceptable to me.

“ In this state I have found things at my accession to the throne of my ancestors; happy in viewing the prosperous part of it; happier still should I have been had I found my kingdoms, whose true interest I have entirely at heart, in full peace: but, since the ambition, injurious incroach-

ments, and dangerous designs of my enemies, rendered the war both just and necessary; and the generous overture, made last winter, towards a congress for a pacification, has not yet produced a suitable return, I am determined, with your cheerful and powerful assistance, to prosecute this war with vigour, in order to that desirable object, a safe and honourable peace. For this purpose, it is absolutely incumbent upon us to be early prepared, and I rely upon your zeal and hearty concurrence to support the King of Prussia, and the rest of my allies, and to make ample provision for carrying on the war, as the only means to bring our enemies to equitable terms of accommodation."

" Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

" The greatest uneasiness which I feel at this time, is in considering the uncommon burdens necessarily brought upon my faithful subjects. I desire only such supplies as shall be requisite to prosecute the war with advantage; be adequate to the necessary services; and that they may be provided for in the most sure and effectual manner. You may depend upon the faithful and punctual application of what shall be granted. I have ordered the proper estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you; and also an account of the extraordinary expences, which, from the nature of the different and remote operations, have been unavoidably incurred.

" It is with peculiar reluctance that I am obliged, at such a time, to mention any thing which personally regards myself; but, as the grant of the greatest part of the civil list revenues is now determined, I trust in your duty and affection to me, to make the proper provision for supporting my civil government with honour and dignity. On my part you may be assured of a regular and becoming economy."

" My Lords and Gentlemen,

" The eyes of all Europe are upon you. From your resolutions the Protestant interest hopes for protection, as well as all our friends for the preservation of their independency; and our enemies fear the final disappointment of

their ambitious and destructive views. Let these hopes and fears be confirmed and augmented by the vigour, unanimity and dispatch of your proceedings.

“ In this expectation I am the more encouraged by a pleasing circumstance, which I look upon as one of the most auspicious omens of my reign. That happy extinction of divisions, and that union and good harmony which continue to prevail amongst my subjects, afford me the most agreeable prospect: the natural disposition and wish of my heart are, to cement, and promote them; and I promise myself, that nothing will arise, on your part, to interrupt or disturb a situation so essential to the true and lasting felicity of this great people.”

This was a year of ceremony, procession, and pageantry. The first was on occasion of his majesty's marriage with the princess Charlotte Sophia of Mecklenburgh Strelitz. The Earl of Harcourt having been appointed ambassador plenipotentiary to the court of Mecklenburgh to demand the princess, and sign the contract of marriage; the royal yachts were prepared, under convoy of a squadron commanded by Lord Anson, to convey her highness to England. The Duchesses of Ancaster and Hamilton, with the Countess of Effingham, were appointed ladies of the bed-chamber, in order to attend her from her own court to that of England.

Her Serene Highness arrived at St. James's Palace, in the afternoon of the 8th of September, and was received by his majesty with the greatest marks of affection. About nine o'clock of the same evening, the marriage ceremony was performed in the royal chapel, which, on the occasion, was decorated in a very magnificent manner. All the great officers of state, the nobility, peers and peeresses, and the foreign ministers, were present on the occasion; and the service was performed by Dr. Secker, archbishop of Canterbury. The bride was supported by the Duke of York and Prince William, his majesty's brothers; and her train was borne by ten unmarried ladies, the daughters of dukes and earls. The Duke of Cumberland officiated as father, and immediately on their joining hands, the Park and Tower guns were fired.

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The whole nation united in testifying their joy on this occasion, the amiable character of the princess, now queen Charlotte, promising future felicity both to her royal consort and his subjects. On the 14th, the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council, presented their congratulations on these nuptials; which were graciously received. On this occasion, the common council appeared in mazarine blue silk gowns, agreeable to a previous order of that court, which has since greatly contributed to heighten the solemnity and grandeur of their public appearance.

The consequent solemnity of this happy union was the coronation, which took place on the 22d of September. In the hope that a future occasion for this august ceremony may be far distant; and as it is immediately connected with our subject, we give the whole ceremonial in detail:

An Account of the Royal Coronation of their most excellent Majesties King GEORGE III. and Queen CHARLOTTE, on September 22, 1761.

ORDER OF THE PROCESSION.

The King's Herb Woman, with her Six Maids, strewing the
Way with Herbs.

The Dean's Beadle of Westminster, with his Staff.

The High Constable of Westminster, with his Staff, in a Scarlet Cloak:

A Fife.

Four Drums.

The Drum Major.

Eight Trumpets.

A Kettle Drum.

Eight Trumpeters.

The Serjeant Trumpeter.

The Six Clerks in Chancery.

The Closet Keeper of the Chapel Royal.

The King's Chaplains, having Dignities

Sheriffs of London.

Aldermen of London.

Masters in Chancery.

The Kings Serjeants at Law.

The Solicitor General.

The Attorney General.

The King's ancient Serjeant.

Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber.

Barons of the Exchequer and Justices of both Benches, two and two.

Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Master of the Rolls.

Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

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Children

Children of the Choir of Westminster, in Surplices.
 Serjeant of the Vestry. Serjeant Porter, in Scarlet Gowns.
 Children of the Chapel Royal, in Surplices, with Scarlet Mantles over them.
 Choir of Westminster, in Surplices.
 Organ Blower. Groom of the Vestry.
 A Sackbut. A double Courtal. A Sackbut.
 Gentlemen of the Chapel Royal, in Scarlet Mantles.
 The Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal, in a Scarlet Gown.
 Prebendaries of Westminster, in Surplices and rich Copes.
 The Dean of Westminster, in a Surplice and rich Cope.
 The Master of the Jewel House, with one of his Officers going by him, both in
 Scarlet.
 Bath King of Arms, in his Habit of the Order, and Crown in his Hand.
 Knights of the Bath, not Peers, in the full Habit of the Order, Two and Two,
 carrying their Caps and Feathers in their Hands.
 Pursuivants at Arms.
 Privy Counsellors, not Peers.
 His Majesty's Vice Chamberlain.
 Comptroller of the Household. Treasurer of the Household.
 Pursuivants at Arms.
 Baronesses, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Barons, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Heralds.
 Bishops, in their Rochets; their Caps in their Hands.
 Heralds.
 Viscountesses, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Viscounts, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Heralds.
 Countesses, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Earls, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 The Lord Steward of the Household, being an Earl.
 Heralds.
 Marchionesses, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Marquesses, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Heralds.
 Duchesses, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 Dukes, in their Robes of Estate; their Coronets in their Hands.
 The Lord Chamberlain of the Household, Duke of Devonshire.
 Provincial Kings of Arms.
 Lord Privy Seal, in his Robes of Estate; Lord President, in his Robes of Estate; his
 his Coronet in his Hand, Earl Temple. Coronet in his Hand, Earl of Granville.
 Lord Archbishop of York, in his Rochet; Lord Chancellor in his Robes of Estate,
 his Cap in his Hand. and Coronet in his Hand, bearing the
 Purse, Lord Henley.
 Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, in his Rochet; with his Cap in his Hand,
 Dr. Thomas Secker.

Two Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber, in proper Mantles, their Hats in their Hands, representing the Dukes of

Aquitaine, Normandy,
Sir William Breton, Sir Tho. Robinson, Bart.
The Queen's Vice Chamberlain, Lord Viscount Cantalupe.

Two Gentlemen Ushers.

The Ivory Rod with the Dove, borne by the Earl of Northampton, in his Robes of Estate. The Queen's Lord Chamberlain, Duke of Manchester, in his Robes, with his Coronet and Staff in his Hand. The Scepter with the Cross, borne by the Duke of Rutland, in his Robes of Estate.

Two
Sergeants
at Arms.

The Queen's Crown, borne by the Duke of Bolton, in his Robes of Estate.

Two
Sergeants
at Arms.

Gentlemen Pensioners.

Bishop of
Norwich.

The QUEEN,
In her Royal Robes, (on her Head a Circlet of Gold, adorned with Jewels) going under a Canopy of Cloth of Gold, born by Sixteen Barons of the Cinque Ports; her Train supported by her Royal Highness Princess Augusta, in her Robes of Estate assisted by Six Eails Daughters.

Bishop of
Lincoln.

Gentlemen Pensioners.

Lady Mary Grey, Lady Selina Hastings,
Lady Eliz. Montague, Lady Heneage Finch,
Lady Jane Stuart, Lady Mary Douglas.

Princess's Coronet borne by the Marquis of Carnarvon.

Duchess of Ancaster, Mistress of the Robes.

Two Women of her Majesty's Bed Chamber.

The KING's Regalia.

St. Edward's Staff borne by the Duke of Kingston, in his Robes. The Golden Spurs, borne by the Earl of Sussex, in his Robes. The Scepter with the Cross, borne by the Duke of Marlborough, in his Robes. The Third Sword borne by the Earl of Sutherland, in his Robes. Curtana, borne by the Earl of Lincoln, in his Robes. The Second Sword, borne by the Earl of Suffolk, in his Robes.

Usher of the Green Rod.

Usher of the White Rod.

Lord Mayor of London, in his Gown, Collar, and Jewel, bearing the City Mace, Sir Matthew Blackiston. Lyon King of Arms of Scotland, carrying his Crown in his Hand, John Campbell Hooke, Esq. Garter Principal King of Arms, his Crown in his Hand, Stephen Martin Leake, Esq. Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, with his Rod, Sir Septimus Robinson.

The Lord Great Chamberlain of England, in his Robes of Estate, and Coronet and White Staff in his Hands.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, in his Robes of Estate, and Coronet in his Hand; his Train borne by the Hon. John Fitzwilliams.

His

His Royal Highness the Duke of York, in his Robes of Estate, and Coronet in his Hand ; his Train borne by Colonel Brudenell.

Earl Marshal, in his Robes, with his Coronet and Earl Marshal's Staff, E. of Effingham.	The Sword of State, borne by the E. of Huntingdon, in his Robes.	Lord High Constable of England, in his Robes, with his Coronet and Staff, D. of Bedford.	High Constable of Scotland, in his Robes, with his Coronet and Staff, Earl of Errol.
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A Gent. carrying the Staff of the Lord High Steward.	Sergeants at Arms.	The Scepter with St. Edward's Crown,	The Orb, borne by the D. of Somerset, in his Robes.	A Gent. carrying the Coronet of the Lord High Steward.
		the Dove, borne by the Duke of Richmond, in his Robes.	borne by the Lord High Steward, in his Robes, Earl Talbot.	
		The Paten by the Bishop of Rochester.	The Bible, carried by the Bishop of Carlisle.	

Gentlemen Pensioners.	Bishop of Hereford.	The KING, In his Royal Robes, (on his Head a Cap of Estate adorned with Jewels) going under a Canopy of Cloth of Gold, borne by Sixteen Barons of the Cinque Ports; his Train supported by Six Lords, eldest sons of Peers,	Bishop of Durham.	Gentlemen Pensioners.
	Viscount Mandeville, Lord Howard, Lord Beauchamp,	Marquis of Hartington, Lord Grey, Lord Newnham.		

And, at the End of it, the Master of the Robes, Honourable James Brudenell.

Standard-Bearer of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners.	Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, in his Robes.	Captain of the Horse in Waiting, in his Robes.	Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, in his Robes.	Lieutenant of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners.
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A Gentleman of the King's Bed Chamber.

Two Grooms of the Bed Chamber.

Ensign of the Yeomen of the Guard.	Lieutenant of the Yeomen of the Guard.
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Exempts.	The Yeomen of the Guard.	Exempts.
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The Clerk of the Cheque to the Yeomen of the Guard.

N. B. All the Peers, in the Procession, were in their Robes of Estate; and the Knights of the Garter, Thistle, or Bath, wore the Collars of their respective Orders.

The Manner of disposing, seating, and placing the several Persons who came in the grand Procession, after their Entrance into the Church, was as follows :

The drums staying at the west door of the church, the trumpets and kettle-drums first entered, and coming to the west

west door of the choir, turned up the stairs on the left hand, into the gallery, over the door.

After them, the six clerks entered the choir; and, being conducted by two officers of arms, ascended the steps of the theatre; and dividing themselves to the right and left, went to their seats in the galleries on either side of the choir, level with the theatre, to the west end of the benches, and stood before their seats (as all others did,) until their majesties were seated.

Next, the king's chaplains, having dignities; the aldermen of London; the masters in Chancery; the king's serjeants at law; the king's solicitor and attorney, the king's antient serjeant; the esquires of the body, the gentlemen of the privy chamber; the barons of the Exchequer, and justices of both benches, together with the lord chief baron and the two chief justices, having ascended the theatre, were directed in like manner to divide to the right and left, and take their places also on each side the choir, the foremost going still towards the west part of the benches.

Then the choir of Westminster, with the prebendaries and dean, having entered the church, fell off from the procession a little on the left hand of the middle aisle, and staid till their majesties entered the church, whilst the serjeant-porter and serjeant of the vestry passed over the theatre to their station on the north side of the altar: the children and gentlemen of his majesty's chapel repaired in the mean time to the galleries appointed for them on each side of the sacarium, or area, before the altar, viz. the vocal music to the gallery between the two uppermost pillars on the south side of the altar, and the instrumental music to the gallery on the north side of the said area, in the arch next to the pulpit.

The master of the jewel house and the privy counsellors, not peers, passed over the theatre to the north side of the said area, the master of the jewel house toward the north side of the altar, and the others to that end of the seats provided for the bishops, next to the pulpit.

Then the baronesses, ascending the steps of the theatre, turned to the left hand, and were conducted by an officer of

arms

arms to the furthest of those six seats prepared for the peeresses, on the north side of the theatre.

In like manner the barons were conducted to the furthest of the six seats, on the south side of the theatre; and the bishops to their seats on the north side of the area or sacrary.

Then the viscountesses were conducted (by one of the officers of arms who preceded them) to their seats next to the baronesses; and the viscounts (by the other officers of arms,) to the opposite side, next to the barons.

And so the countesses, earls, marchionesses, duchesses, and dukes, were conducted to their seats in like manner, viz. the peeresses to the seats on the north side of the theatre, and the peers to those on the south side.

By this time the king and queen having entered the church, were received by the dean and prebendaries, who, with the choir of Westminster, proceeding a little before their majesties, sang an anthem.

The anthem being ended, the children and choir of Westminster turned to the left hand, to the back side of the choir, and went up into their gallery.

Then the prebendaries, entering the choir, ascended the theatre, and passed over it to their station, on the south side of the altar, beyond the king's chair.

After which the dean of Westminster, the great officers, and two archbishops, with the dukes of Aquitaine and Normandy, ascended the theatre, and stood near the great south-east pillar thereof.

Then the queen, preceded by her vice-chamberlain, two gentlemen-ushers, and her lord chamberlain, and by the Lords who bore her majesty's regalia; and, being attended as before, ascended the theatre, leaving the gentlemen pensioners (who guarded her majesty) below in the choir, and the serjeant at arms at the rail on the west side of the theatre, and passed on the north side of her throne, to the chair of state and faldstool provided for her on the east side of the theatre, below her throne, and stood by the said chair till his majesty came.

When the queen entered the choir, the king's scholars of
Westminster

Westminster school, in number forty, all in surplices, being placed in a gallery adjoining to the great organ-loft, entertained her majesty with this short prayer or salutation, VIVAT REGINA, [naming her majesty's name;] which they continued to sing until his majesty entered the choir, whom they entertained in like manner with this prayer or salutation, VIVAT [naming his majesty's name] REX ; which they continued to sing until his majesty ascended the theatre.

Then the king, preceded as before, having left the barons of the Cinque Ports, who bore his majesty's canopy, at the entrance into the choir, and the gentlemen pensioners in the choir, ascended the theatre, leaving the rest of the serjeants at arms at the rail aforesaid ; and passing by the south side of his throne, to his chair of state set for him on the east side of the theatre, near the foot of his throne, made an humble adoration, and kneeled down at his faldstool, just before his chair, and used some private devotions ; the queen doing the like : and then, arising, placed himself in his chair of state ; and, being seated, the queen also sat down in her chair of state : the lord chancellor, the lord great-chamberlain, the lord high constable, and earl marshal, with the two bishops who supported his majesty, the dean of Westminster, and the lords who carried the regalia and swords, with garter and the gentleman usher, all standing about his majesty, viz. The bishops on either side, the lords who bore the swords on the right hand, and the lord great chamberlain on the left hand.

The queen's officers, and those who bore her majesty's regalia, with the two supporting bishops, and the lady who bore her majesty's train, with the two ladies assistants, all standing likewise about her majesty, viz. the bishops on either side, her lord chamberlain on the right hand, and her vice-chamberlain on the left ; and the ladies, that attended her, behind.

Thus their majesties being seated, and all the nobility and others duly placed, the two provincial kings of arms, with the heralds and pursuivants of arms, repaired to their stations at the four great corner pillars of the theatre.

THE RECOGNITION.

Then the archbishop of Canterbury, standing near the king on the east side of the theatre, his majesty, attended as before, rose out of his chair, and stood before it, whilst the archbishop, having his face to the east, said as follows :

“ SIRS,

“ I here present unto you king George, the rightful inheritor of the crown of this realm : Wherefore all ye that are come this day to do your homage, service, and bounden duty, are ye willing to do the same ?”

From thence the said archbishop, accompanied with the lord chancellor, the lord great chamberlain, the lord high constable, and the earl marshal, (garter king of arms going before them) proceeded to the south side of the theatre, and repeated the same words ; then proceeded to the west, and lastly to the north side of the theatre, in like manner : the king standing all this while by his chair of state, toward the east side of the theatre, and turning his face to the several sides, at such time as the archbishop at every presentation spoke to the people.

The people signified their willingnefs and joy by loud acclamations, saying,

God save king GEORGE !

At the last recognition the trumpets sounded and drums beat.

After this eremony, a full anthem was sung by the choirs, while their majesties reposed themselves in their chairs of state.

THE FIRST OBLATION.

The archbishop, in the mean time going to the altar, re-vested himself with a rich cope, and placed himself at the north side of the altar ; as did also the bishops, who bore any part in the office.

The grooms of the removing wardrobe in the interim spread a large carpet from the altar down below the half paces, as far as King Edward's chair : and the gentleman

usher of the black rod, and the yeoman of his majesty's wardrobe, assisted by the two grooms before mentioned, spread a rich carpet of cloth of gold over it; and lay cushions of the same for their majesties to kneel on, at the steps of the altar.

Then the king rose from his chair (on the east side of the theatre below his throne) leaving the queen in her's; being supported by the two bishops, and attended (as always) by the dean of Westminster: the great officers and the noblemen who carried the four swords and regalia going before him, put off his cap of estate, and went to the steps of the altar, and there kneeled down upon the cushions.

Here the pall of cloth of gold was delivered to the lord great chamberlain, by the master of the great wardrobe, who, kneeling, presented it to his majesty, and the king offered it.

Then the treasurer of his majesty's household delivered to the lord great chamberlain, an ingot, or wedge of gold, of a pound weight, (viz. ten ounces troy) which the king also offered.

The archbishop, assisted by the dean of Westminster, received them (standing) from his majesty, and laid them reverently on the altar: which done, the king arising made an obeisance towards the altar, and retired to his chair on the south side of the area or sacrarium.

Then the queen, supported as before by the bishops, was brought from her seat, (on the east side of the theatre below her throne) her regalia being borne before her; and, being come to the steps of the altar, kneeled down, and offered a like pall, with the same ceremony as the king did before, and then retired to her chair, set for her likewise on the south side of the area, or on the king's left hand.

After which, their majesties kneeling at their faldstools placed before their chairs, the archbishop made the following prayer:

“ O GOD, who dwellest in the high and holy place, with them also who are of an humble spirit; look down graciously

upon these thy servants, GEORGE our king, and CHARLOTTE our queen, here prostrate before thee at thy footstool, and mercifully receive these oblations," &c.

Which prayer being ended, the lords, who bore his majesty's regalia, drew near to the steps of the altar, and every one, in order, presented what he carried, viz. the crown, the orb, the sceptre with the dove, the spurs, the scepter with the cross, and St. Edward's staff, unto the archbishop; who being assisted, as before, by the dean of Westminster, laid them decently upon the altar, and the lords who bore them retired to their respective seats.

In like manner, the lords who carried her majesty's regalia, delivered them severally in manner as before, viz. first the crown, then the scepter with the cross, and lastly, the ivory rod with the dove, and retired to their respective seats.

Which done, the persons representing the dukes of Aquitaine and Normandy, with the great officers, viz. the lord chancellor, the lord treasurer, the lord president of the council, and the lord privy-seal, together with the lord high constable and the earl marshal, repaired to their seats on the south side of the area, behind their majesties chairs, where the lord high steward had immediately before seated himself.

THE LITANY.

Their majesties arising from their chairs, and kneeling again at their faldstools, which were now placed facing the east, the queen's on the left hand of the king's, the archbishop ordered the yeomen of his majesty's vestry to give notice to the bishops of Chester and Chichester to read the Litany; which they accordingly sung,

"O God the father of heaven," &c.

The choirs sung the responses, the Dean of Westminster kneeling on the left hand of the king, a little behind his majesty; after which, viz. at the end of the collect,

"We humbly beseech thee, O father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities."

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the archbishop, being all this while at the north side of the altar, said these two prayers :

“ ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, creator of all things, king of kings and lord of lords, give ear, we beseech thee, unto our humble prayers ; and multiply thy blessings upon this thy servant GEORGE, whom in thy name, with lowly devotion, we consecrate our king, &c.”

“ O GOD, who providest for thy people by thy power, and rulest over them in love, grant unto this thy servant GEORGE, our king, the spirit of wisdom and government, &c.”

After the litany, the yeomen of the vestry carried back the desk and cushions into St. Edward’s chapel, where they waited to perform any occasional commands of his grace the archbishop of Canterbury.

THE SERMON.

Then the bishop of Salisbury (nominated to the see of York) ascended the pulpit ; and the king and queen, arising, seated themselves again in their chairs, on the south side of the area, where they heard the sermon, the king now putting on again his velvet cap of estate.

During sermon, the two bishops, who supported the king, stood on each side of him : the lords who carried the swords bore them erect, near the king, on his right side ; and the lord great chamberlain stood on the king’s left hand.

On the east side of the queen stood the two bishops who supported her, and the two great ladies near her chair ; her chamberlain on her right hand, and her vice chamberlain on her left.

The archbishop of Canterbury sat in a chair, on the north side of the altar, and the bishops on benches on the north side of the area : and near the archbishop stood Garter king of arms, with several of the king’s servants, who attended to do service, as also the serjeant and two yeomen of the vestry before mentioned, in scarlet mantles : on the same side, near the pulpit, stood the lord mayor of London and the master of the jewel-house : and at the angles or corners
of

of the thrones, stood the four gentlemen-ushers daily waiters, richly habited.

On the south side, east of the king's chair, and nearer to the altar, stood the dean and prebendaries of Westminster; and near them the commissioners of the great wardrobe, as also the yeomen and grooms of his majesty's removing wardrobe, in their scarlet gowns, to place the chairs, faldstools, &c. as occasion required; and king Edward's chair, in which his majesty was crowned, was placed about the middle of the area before the altar.

In the lord great chamberlain's seat, being a large box on the south side of the area, between the great south-east pillar of the theatre and the next pillar eastward, were seated the princes and princesses of the royal family; and over them, in a large gallery between the said two pillars, ambassadors and foreign ministers, and strangers of quality.

THE OATH.

Sermon being ended, the king uncovered his head, and the archbishop repaired to his majesty, and asked him, 'Sir, Are you willing to take the oath usually taken by your predecessors?'

And the king answered, "I am willing."

Then the archbishop ministered these questions; to which the king (having a book in his hand) answered as followeth:

Archb. 'Sir, will you grant and keep, and by your oath confirm to the people of England, the laws and customs to them granted by the kings of England, your lawful and religious predecessors; and namely, the laws, customs, and franchises granted to the clergy by the glorious St. Edward, your predecessor, according to the laws of God, the true profession of the gospel established in this kingdom, and agreeing to the prerogative of the kings thereof, and the ancient customs of this realm?'

King. "I grant and promise to keep them."

Archb. 'Sir, will you keep peace and godly agreement entirely, according to your power, to the holy church, the clergy, and the people?'

King.

King. " I will keep it."

Archb. ' Sir, will you, to your power, cause law, justice, and discretion, in mercy and truth, to be executed in all your judgments?'

King. " I will."

Archb. ' Sir, will you grant to hold and keep the right-ful customs which the commonalty of this your kingdom have? And will you defend and uphold them, to the honour of God, so much as in you lieth?'

King. " I grant and promise so to do."

Then the petition or request of the bishops to the king was read by one of that sacred order, with a clear voice, in the name of the rest standing by: ' O Lord and King, we beseech you to pardon us, and to grant and preserve unto us, and the churches committed to our charge, all canonical privileges, and due law and justice: and that you will protect and defend us, as every good king in his kingdom ought to be protector and defender of the bishops and churches under their government.'

The king answered, " With a willing and devout heart I promise and grant you my pardon; and that I will preserve and maintain to you, and the churches committed to your charge, all canonical privileges, and due law and justice: and that I will be your protector and defender to my power, by the assistance of God, as every good king in his kingdom ought in right to protect and defend the bishops and churches under their government."

Then the king rose from his chair, and, being attended by the lord great chamberlain, and supported by the two bishops, and the sword of state carried before him, went to the altar, and, laying his hand upon the Evangelists, took the oath following: " The things, which I have here before promised, I will perform and keep. So help me God and the contents of this book;" and then he kissed the book.

THE ANOINTING.

This being done, the king went to his faldstool (which was placed towards the altar) and kneeled thereat; the queen in
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the mean time came from her chair to her faldstool, on the left hand of the king's, at which she also kneeled, whilst the choirs sung a full anthem.

After which, the archbishop said this prayer to the collect :

“ WE beseech thee, O Lord, holy father, almighty and everlasting God, for this thy servant king GEORGE, that, as at first thou didst bring him into the world by thy divine providence, and through the flower of his age hast preserved him unto this present day ; so thou wouldest enrich him evermore with thy bounty, and fill him with grace and truth, and daily increase in him all goodness, in the sight of God and man; that, being placed in the throne of supreme government, assisted by thy heavenly grace, and by thy mercy defended from all his enemies, he may govern the people committed to his charge in wealth, peace, and godliness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

After the collect, the archbishop, with a loud voice, said :

Archb. ‘ The Lord be with you.’

Response. “ And with thy spirit.”

Archb. ‘ Lift up your hearts.’

Response. “ We lift them up unto the Lord.”

Archb. ‘ Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.’

Response. “ It is meet and right so to do.”

Archb. ‘ It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, the exalter of the humble, and the strength of thy chosen ; who, by the anointing with oil, didst make and consecrate kings,’ &c.

This preface being ended, the choirs sung an anthem ; and in the mean time the king rose from his devotions, and went to the altar, supported as before, and attended by the lord great chamberlain, who disrobed his majesty of his mantle and surcoat of crimson velvet, which were carried immediately into the king's traverse in St. Edward's chapel : and king Edward's chair, with a footstool before it, being placed in the midst of the area, or sacarium before the altar, and being covered over with cloth of gold, his majesty seated himself in it.

Then

Then four knights of the garter, appointed by his majesty, held a pall or pallet of cloth of gold over the king during the whole ceremony of anointing: and, the several places of his majesty's habit for the anointing, which were closed with ribbands, being first opened by the archbishop, the ampul, with the oil and spoon, were brought from the altar by the dean of Westminster, who poured out the holy oil into the spoon, wherewith the archbishop anointed the king, in form of a cross,

1. On the palms of his majesty's hands, saying, 'Be these hands anointed with holy oil:'

2. On the the breast, saying, 'Be this breast anointed,' &c.

3. On both shoulders, and between the shoulders, saying, 'Be these shoulders anointed,' &c.

4. On the bowings of both his arms, saying, "Be these arms anointed," &c.

Lastly, On the crown of the head, saying, 'Be this head anointed with holy oil, as kings and prophets were anointed, and as Solomon was anointed king,' &c.

Then the dean of Westminster laid the ampul and spoon again upon the altar; and the archbishop, placing himself on the north side thereof, said this prayer, the king kneeling at his footstool:

"GOD, the Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord, who was anointed by his Father with the oil of gladness," &c.

This prayer being ended, the king rose, and sat down in the chair, and the dean of Westminster (having first dried all the places anointed, save the head and the hands, with fine cotton-wool, delivered to him by the lord great chamberlain) closed again the places that were opened in his garment.

Then a shallow coif of lawn was by the lord great chamberlain delivered to the archbishop; and by him put upon the king's head; and the linen gloves (part of the regalia) were put upon his hands, because of the anointing; and in the mean time a short anthem was sung by the choirs.

THE INVESTING.

The anthem being ended, the dean of Westminster brought from the altar the *Colobium Sindonis*, (or fine white cambric surplice, without sleeves) which he put upon the king, standing before his chair; the archbishop saying this prayer, or benediction:

“O GOD, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, by whom kings reign and princes decree justice, vouchsafe, with thine especial favour and grace, to bless this thy servant GEORGE, our king,” &c.

Then the dean of Westminster brought from the altar the supertunica, surcoat, or closs pall, of cloth of gold, and a girdle of the same, to which the sword was after fastened, and arrayed the king therewith.

Then the tissue hose and buskins, and the sandals of cloth of gold, were by the dean put upon the king, his majesty sitting down.

After this the dean of Westminster brought the spurs from the altar, and delivered them to the lord great chamberlain, who, kneeling down, seemingly put them on the king's heels, but indeed only touched the king's heels therewith, and forthwith took them off again, that his majesty might not be incumbered with them, by reason of the length of his robes; and, re-delivering them to the dean of Westminster, they were by him laid upon the altar.

Then the nobleman, who bore the sword of state in the procession, in lieu thereof delivered a sword in a scabbard of purple velvet to the archbishop, who, laying it on the altar, said the following prayer:

“HEAR our prayers, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by the right hand of thy majesty, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify this thy servant GEORGE, our king, who is now to be girt with this sword,” &c.

The prayer ended, the archbishop, assisted by other bishops, delivered the sword into the king's hands, saying, “Receive this kingly sword, delivered unto thee by the hands of the bishops,” &c.

And

And the king, standing up, delivered it to the lord great chamberlain, who girded his majesty therewith; whereupon, the king sitting down again, the archbishop, said, "Remember of whom the Psalmist did prophesy, when he said, 'Gird thee with thy sword upon thy thigh, O thou most mighty,' &c.

Then, the king arising, the dean of Westminster took the armil from the master of the great wardrobe, and put it about his majesty's neck, and tied it to the bowings of his arms above and below the elbows, the archbishop, saying, "Receive this armil, as a token of the Divine mercy embracing thee on every side," &c.

Lastly, The mantle, or open pall of cloth of gold and purple brocade, lined with red taffata, was delivered by the same gentleman to the dean of Westminster, who put it upon the king standing; and his majesty, being invested therewith, sat down, while the dean of Westminster was bringing the orb with the cross from the altar, which was delivered into the king's right hand by the archbishop, saying, "Receive this imperial pall and orb, and remember that the whole world is subject to the power and empire of God," &c.

THE CROWNING.

The king being thus invested, the archbishop, standing before the altar, took St. Edward's crown into his hands, and, laying it before him again upon the altar, said this prayer, the king kneeling at his footstool:

"O GOD, the Crown of the faithful, bless, we beseech thee, and sanctify," &c.

Then the king sat down again in king Edward's chair, and the archbishop coming from the altar with the crown between his hands, assisted by the dean of Westminster and other bishops, reverently put it upon the king's head.

At which the trumpets sounded a point of war, the drums, which were without beat a charge, and the people, with loud and repeated shouts, cried, "GOD save the KING!"

And, a signal being given from the battlements of the

north cross of the church by two gunners, one of them took his station on the inner roof over the area, to observe the exact minute of his majesty's crowning, and thereupon, hastening to the battlements, commanded his companion (there placed) to fire a musquet, and light a port-fire. Upon which the great guns in St. James's Park were fired; and upon the same sign the ordnance of the Tower were discharged.

The noise and acclamations ceasing, the archbishop went on, saying these two prayers, standing before the king:

1. "GOD crown thee with a crown of fortitude and honour, of righteousness and glory," &c.

2. "O eternal God, King of kings, Fountain of all authority and power, bless, we beseech thee, this thy servant, who in lowly devotion boweth his head unto thy Divine Majesty," &c.

At which words the king bowed his head.

Then the archbishop read the *Comfortare*: "Be strong, and of good courage; observe the commandments of God and walk in his ways; and the Almighty God strengthen thee," &c.

After which a full anthem was sung by the choirs.

While the anthem was singing, the king delivered the orb to the dean of Westminster, who laid it again upon the altar; and then his majesty, rising up, went from his chair to the altar, where his sword was ungirt, and offered by his majesty in the scabbard, but was immediately redeemed (by the king's appointment) for an hundred shillings; and the nobleman redeeming it drew it out, and so bore it naked before the king during the rest of the solemnity.

The anthem being sung, all the peers put on their coronets:

The two persons, representing the Dukes of Normandy and Aquitaine, put on their caps of estate:

And the kings of arms put on their coronets.

THE INVESTITURE PER ANNULUM ET BACCULUM.

The king returning from the altar, and having seated himself again in his chair, the master of the jewel-house delivered

givered the king's ring (in which a table ruby is incased, and on that St. George's cross engraven) to the archbishop; and, the king drawing off his linen glove, the archbishop put it on the fourth finger of his majesty's right hand, saying, "Receive the ring of kingly dignity, and the seal of Catholic faith, that, as thou art this day consecrated head and prince of this kingdom and people," &c.

Then, according to antient custom, the lord of the manor of Workop, in Nottinghamshire, presented his majesty with a rich glove, which the king put on his right hand, immediately before he received the scepter; and, his majesty still sitting in his chair, the archbishop took the scepter with the cross, and put it into the king's right hand, saying, "Receive the scepter, the ensigu of kingly power and justice," &c.

Whereupon the lord of the manor before mentioned supported the king's right arm, or held the said scepter for his majesty, as occasion required.

After which the archbishop delivered the rod or scepter with the dove into the king's left hand, saying, "Receive the rod of equity and mercy," &c.

THE SECOND OBLATION AND BENEDICTION.

The king, having been anointed, invested, and crowned, and having received all his royal ornaments, went towards the altar, holding both the sceptres in his hands, and, kneeling there upon the steps, put off his crown, and delivered the scepter with the cross, and the scepter with the dove, into the hands of two noblemen, to be held by them, whilst he made his second oblation, which was a mark weight of gold, (viz. eight ounces troy,) delivered by the treasurer of the household to the lord great chamberlain of England, and by him to the king, and received by the archbishop into the bason, and by him reverently laid upon the altar.

Whereupon, the king still kneeling, and taking again the scepters into his hands, the archbishop blessed the king and people; after which, the king rose and put on his crown; and, being attended as before, went again to king Edward's chair,

chair, and sat down in it, and there vouchsafed to kiss the archbishops and bishops assisting at his coronation, as they kneeled before him, one after another.

This done, the choirs began to sing the seventh anthem, *Te Deum laudamus*, &c.

At the beginning whereof, the king, having the four swords carried before him, and being attended by the archbishops and bishops, and the great officers, turning to the right hand, went up to the theatre, whereon the throne was placed, and reposed himself in his chair of state, on the east side of the theatre, below his throne, where his majesty sat at his coming into the choir.

THE INTHRONING AND HOMAGE.

Te Deum being ended, the king ascended the throne, being lifted up by the archbishops and bishops, and other peers of the kingdom, who, with the noblemen that bore the swords before him, stood about the throne and steps.

The king being seated in his throne, the archbishop, standing before him, said this exhortation :

“ STAND firm, and hold fast from henceforth that place of royal dignity, whereof thou art the lawful and undoubted heir, by succession from thy forefathers,” &c.

The exhortation being ended, all the peers then present did their homage to the king as followeth :

First, the archbishop of Canterbury kneeling before his majesty's knees (the other bishops doing the same behind and about him) did his homage, saying, “ I, Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, will be faithful and true, and faith and truth wear unto you, our sovereign lord, and your heirs, kings of Great Britain : and I will do, and truly acknowledge the service of the land which I claim to hold of you, as in right of the church. So help me God.”

Then rising, he kissed the king's left cheek : after him the rest of the bishops present did the like, and retired.

Then the first duke having in his hand the words of homage, in the behalf of himself and the rest of the dukes, kneeled down, and said as follows ; “ I ——— Duke of ———, do
become

become your liege man of life and limb, and of earthly worship: and faith and truth I will bear unto you, to live and die against all manner of folks. So help me God."

In like manner, the first marquis did homage for himself and the rest. And so did the premier earl for the other earls, the first viscount for the viscounts, and the first baron for the barons.

After which, the dukes, and the other orders of the nobility, respectively reascended, and, taking off their coronets, touched the crown upon the king's head, promising by that ceremony to support it with all their power; and, kissing the king's left cheek, were, of his majesty's abundant grace, severally kissed by him at the same time, and so descended.

During the solemnity of the homage, the treasurer of his majesty's household, attended by Garter and the usher of the black rod, threw amongst the people, from the south, west, and north sides of the theatre, medals of gold and silver, prepared for that purpose, as their majesties princely donative or largess; which he continued to do till after the queen was crowned.

In the mean time the gentlemen of the chapel royal, with the instrumental music, and the choir of Westminster, sung and played together an anthem, as a solemn conclusion of the king's part of the coronation.

At the end of which the trumpets sounded and the drums beat, and all the people shouted, crying out, "God save the king!"

THE ANOINTING, CROWNING, AND INTHRONING OF THE QUEEN.

The anthem being ended, the archbishop of Canterbury went to the altar; and the queen rose from her chair, on the south side of the area, where she had reposed herself during the time the king was anointed, crowned, and inthronised; and, being supported by two bishops, went towards the altar, attended by the ladies who bore her majesty's train, together with the ladies of the bedchamber, &c. and kneeled down

at the steps of the altar, the carpets and cushions being spread and laid there for her, in like manner as they had been before for the king.

Then the archbishop, being on the north side of the altar, said this prayer :

“ ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the fountain of all goodness, give ear, we beseech thee, to our prayers, and multiply thy blessings upon this thy servant, whom, in thy name, with all humble devotion, we consecrate our queen,” &c.

This done, the queen rose, and went to the faldstool, at which she was to be anointed and crowned, placed between king Edward’s chair and the steps of the altar, where the groom of the stole to her majesty (with the two ladies of the bedchamber, assisted by the queen’s women) took off her rich circle or coronet.

Then the queen kneeled down, and the archbishop poured the holy oil on the crown of her head, in form of a cross, using these words, “ In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, let the anointing of this oil increase thine honour,” &c.

After which, the same ladies opened her apparel for the anointing her majesty on the breast, which the archbishop also performed, pouring on the holy oil in form of a cross, and using the same words, viz. “ In the name of the Father,” &c.

After this, the archbishop said this prayer :

“ ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we beseech thee, of thy abundant goodness, pour out the spirit of thy grace and blessing upon this thy servant queen CHARLOTTE,” &c.

Then the ladies having first dried the place anointed with fine cotton wool, closed the queen’s robes at her breast, and after put a linen coif upon her head, because of anointing.

Which done, the archbishop put the ring (which he received from the master of the jewel-house) on the fourth finger of the queen’s right hand, saying, “ Receive this ring, the seal of a sincere faith,” &c.

Then

Then the archbishop took the crown in his hands from off the altar, and reverently set it on the queen's head, saying, "Receive the crown of glory, honour, and joy; and God, the crown of the faithful, who, by our episcopal hands, (though most unworthy) hath this day set a crown of pure gold upon thy head, inrich," &c.

The queen being crowned, all the peeresses present put on their coronets; and then the archbishop put the scepter with the cross into her majesty's right hand, and the ivory rod with the dove into her left, and said the following prayer:

"O LORD, the fountain of all good things, and the giver of all perfection, grant unto this thy servant CHARLOTTE, our queen," &c.

The queen being thus anointed and crowned, and having received all her royal ornaments, the choirs sung an anthem performed by the whole concert of voices and instruments.

As soon as the anthem began, the queen rose from her faldstool; and, being supported by the two bishops, and her train borne, and attended as before, went up to the theatre; and, as she approached towards the king, bowed herself reverently to his majesty sitting upon his throne; and so was conducted to her own throne on the left hand of the king, where she reposed herself till the anthem was ended.

After which, the archbishop pronounced the benediction, viz. "The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, &c.

THE MANNER OF THEIR MAJESTIES RETURN TO WESTMINSTER HALL.

The ceremony of their majesties coronation being thus performed, the king rose, having the crown on his head, and both the scepters in his hands; and being attended by the great officers, and the lords who carried the four swords, and the other lords who carried St. Edward's staff, the spurs and orb, having again received them from off the high altar, and bearing them before his majesty, the king descended from the theatre, and passed through the door on the south

side of the high altar, into St. Edward's chapel, and came before the altar, at the head of St. Edward's shrine or tomb, where the regalia before mentioned, viz. the staff, spurs, and orb, were delivered to the dean of Westminster, who laid them on the altar.

The queen also, descending from the theatre at the same time with the king, passed by the high altar, through the door on the north side thereof, into St. Edward's chapel, having her crown on her head, and her scepter and ivory rod in her hands, (attended as before), and repaired also to the altar in the chapel.

Then the king delivered the two scepters to the archbishop, who laid them upon the altar; and his majesty, taking off his crown, delivered it also to the archbishop, who placed it upon the said altar.

The queen also delivered her two sceptres to the archbishop; and, taking off her crown, delivered it likewise to him; all which he placed upon the altar.

This done, the king withdrew into his traverse, at the west end of the said chapel, where he sat down in his chair, and was disrobed, by the lord great chamberlain, of the robes called St. Edward's, which were delivered to the dean of Westminster, who laid them upon the altar before mentioned.

The queen likewise retired to her traverse on the left hand of the king's, and there reposed herself until the king was re-vested.

The king was then arrayed, by the lord great chamberlain, in his royal robes of purple velvet, furred with ermin. And, the king and queen coming before St. Edward's altar, the archbishop (being still re-vested as before) put two other imperial crowns upon their majesties heads, with caps of purple velvet, viz. the crown of state upon the king's head, and a rich crown upon the queen's, which their majesties continued to wear all the rest of the day.

The archbishop also put into the king's right hand the scepter with the cross, and into his left hand the orb or globe with the cross; and into the queen's right hand her scepter

with the cross, and into her left hand the ivory rod with the dove: which done, the archbishop and bishops divested themselves of their copes, and left them there, proceeding in their rochets, or usual habit.

Then the queen, having her crown on her head, and the scepter and ivory rod in her hands, and being supported and attended, and her train borne as before, proceeded from St. Edward's chapel over the theatre, by the north side of her throne, and so through the choir, in the same manner as she came to the church (saving that the lords, who bore her regalia thither, did not go now immediately before her, but repaired to their respective places in the procession, according to their several degrees), and was again received under her canopy by the barons of the cinque ports, who attended without the door of the choir, for that purpose.

The king likewise, having the four swords and the scepter with the dove, borne before him, with his crown on his head, and in his hands the scepter with the cross, and the orb, a noble lord supporting his right arm, proceeded out of St. Edward's chapel, assisted and attended, and his train borne, as before, and passed over the theatre by the south side of his throne, and so through the choir, in the same manner as he came to the church [saving that the lords, who, in the former procession, carried any of the regalia, which were now left behind in St. Edward's chapel (as the spurs and staff,) or which his majesty did now bear himself (as the orb and scepter with the cross), went now in their respective places in the procession, according to their several degrees], and was received in like manner under his canopy by the barons of the Cinque Ports at the choir door.

Thus this most glorious and splendid assembly proceeded down the body of the church, through the great west door, and so returned to Westminster Hall, by the same way it came; the Dukes of Normandy and Aquitaine wearing their caps of estate, the peers and peeresses their coronets, the bishops their caps, and the kings of arms their coronets.

All the way from the church to the hall, the drums beat, the trumpets sounded, and the vast multitude of beholders filled the air with loud acclamations and shouts.

On their arrival at Westminster Hall, dinner being placed on the table, their majesties sat down to dinner, as did likewise the peers and peeresses at their respective tables.

Before the second course was brought in, the king's champion, who enjoys that office as being lord of the manor of Scrivelsby, in Lincolnshire, entered the hall completely armed, in one of his majesty's best suits of white armour, mounted on a beautiful white horse, richly caparisoned in manner following :

Two trumpets, with the champion's arms on their banners; the serjeant trumpet, with his mace on his shoulder: two serjeants at arms, with their maces on their shoulders; the champion's two esquires, richly habited, one on the right hand, with the champion's lance carried upright; the other on the left hand, with his target, and the champion's arms depicted thereon; the herald of arms with a paper in his hand, containing the words of the challenge.

The earl marshal in his robes and coronet, on horseback, with the marshal's staff in his hand; the champion on horseback, with a gauntlet in his right hand, his helmet on his head, adorned with a great plume of feathers, white, blue, and red; the lord high constable in his robes and coronet, and collar of the order, on horseback, with the constable's staff.

Four pages richly apparelled, attendants on the champion.

The passage to their majesties table being cleared by the knight marshal, the herald at arms, with a loud voice, proclaimed the champion's challenge at the lower end of the hall, in the words following :

“ If any person, of what degree soever, high or low, shall deny or gainsay, our sovereign lord king George III. king of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. grandson and next heir to our sovereign lord king George II. the last king, deceased, to be right heir to the imperial crown of this realm of Great Britain, or that he ought not to enjoy the same; here is the champion, who saith that he lieth, and is a false traitor, being ready in person to combat with him; and in this quarrel will adventure his life against him, on what day soever he shall be appointed.”

And

And then the champion threw down his gauntlet ; which, having lain some small time, the herald took it up, and re-delivered it.

Then they advanced in the same order to the middle of the hall, where the same herald made proclamation as before ; and lastly, to the foot of the steps, when the herald, and those who preceded him, going to the top of the steps, made proclamation a third time, at the end whereof the champion threw down his gauntlet ; which, after some time, being taken up, and re-delivered to him by the herald, he made a low obeisance to his majesty : whereupon the cup-bearer, assisted as before, brought to the king a gilt bowl of wine, with a cover ; his majesty drank to the champion, and sent him the bowl by the cup-bearer, accompanied with his assistants ; which the champion (having put on his gauntlet) received, and retiring a little, drank thereof, and made his humble reverence to his majesty ; and being accompanied as before, departed out of the hall, taking the said bowl and cover with him as his fee.

Immediately after which, the officers of arms, descending from their gallery, Garter and the two provincial kings of arms, with their coronets on their heads, followed by the heralds and pursuivants, came and stood at the lower end of the hall, and, making their obeisance to his majesty, proceeded to the middle of the hall, where they made a second obeisance ; and, being come to the foot of the steps, and there making a third obeisance, they ascended the steps, and, at the top thereof, Garter cried ‘ Largess’ thrice, and (having received his majesty’s largess) proclaimed the king’s stile in Latin, as follows :

“ *Serenissimi, potentissimi, & excellentissimi Monarchæ Georgii III. Dei gratiâ, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ Regis, Fidei Defensoris.*”

Upon which, all the officers of arms making their obeisance, Garter the second time proclaimed his majesty’s stile in French, as followeth :

“ *Du tres-haut, tres-puissant, & tres-excellent Monarque George III. par la grace de Dieu, Roy de la Grande Bretagne, France, & Irlande, Defenseur de la Foy.*”

The

The officers of arms making another reverence, Garter the third time proclaimed the king's stile in English, as followeth :

“ Of the most high, most mighty, and most excellent Monarch George III. by the grace of God, king of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith.”

After which, they all made their obeisance, and, descending, went backwards to the middle of the hall, still keeping their faces towards the king, and there, crying ‘ Largess’ thrice, proclaimed the king’s stile in Latin, French, and English, as before.

And lastly, coming to the lower end of the hall in the same order, they again cried ‘ Largess,’ and proclaimed his majesty’s stile in like manner, and then, repairing to their table, sat down to dinner.

Their majesties having dined, rose from table, received again their regalia, which had been held near them all dinner-time : and thus, with their crowns on their heads, and the orb and scepters in their hands, and attended, and their trains borne as before, and the four swords, and scepter with the dove, being borne before his majesty, they withdrew into the court of wards, where the crowns, orb, and scepters being delivered to the dean of Westminster, and master of the jewel-house, their majesties departed in the same manner as they came thither.

After which the nobility, and all others who dined in Westminster Hall, severally departed.

Among the other services performed on this occasion, was that of chief butler, by the lord mayor ; but this privilege will be more fully described, when speaking of the dignities attached to his office.

N. B. A little before the royal procession began to march, proceeded that of her royal highness the princess dowager of Wales, from the House of Lords, across Old Palace Yard, on a platform erected for that purpose, to the south cross of Westminster Abbey. She was conducted by the hand by his royal highness Prince William Henry, dressed in white and silver,

silver, whose engaging affability and filial complaisance gained, in a moment, the esteem of all the spectators. Her train, which was of silk, was but short, and therefore not borne by any person; and her hair flowed down her shoulders in hanging curls. She had no cap, but only a circlet of diamonds.

The rest of the princes and princesses, her highness's children, followed in the following order:

His royal highness Prince Henry Frederick, also in white and silver, handing his sister, the Princess Louisa-Anne; who was dressed in a slip with hanging sleeves. Then

His royal highness Prince Frederick-William, likewise in white and silver, handing his youngest sister, the Princess Caroline-Matilda, dressed also in a slip with hanging sleeves.

The other persons who made up the remainder of this procession, were those who had not a right to walk with their majesties.

The celebrated Mr. Bonnel Thornton, wrote an entertaining and familiar detail of the particular circumstances attending the Coronation, in a letter to his friend in the country; which, on account of its peculiar merit, is submitted as a close to our description of that magnificent spectacle:—

“ DEAR SIR,

“ Though I regret leaving you so soon, especially as the weather has since proved so fine, that it makes me long to be with you in the country, yet I honestly confess, that I am heartily glad I came to town as I did. As I have seen it, I declare I would not have missed the sight upon any consideration. The friendship of Mr. Rolles, who procured me a pass-ticket, as they call it, enabled me to be present both in the Hall and the Abbey; and as to the procession out of doors, I had a fine view of it from a one-pair of stairs room, which your neighbour, Sir Edward, had hired at the small price of one hundred guineas, on purpose to oblige his acquaintance. I wish you had been with me; but as you have
been

been deprived of a sight, which probably very few that were present will ever see again, I will endeavour to describe it to you as minutely as I can, while the circumstances are fresh in my memory, though my description must fall very short of the reality. First, then, conceive to yourself the fronts of the houses, in all the streets that could command the least point of view, lined with scaffolding, like so many galleries or boxes raised one above another to the very roofs. These were covered with carpets and cloths of different colours, which presented a pleasing variety to the eye ; and if you consider the brilliant appearance of the spectators who were seated in them (many being richly dressed) you will easily imagine this was no indifferent part of the show. The mob underneath made a pretty contrast to the rest of the company. Add to this, that though we had nothing but wet and cloudy weather for some time before, the day cleared up, and the sun shone auspiciously, as it were in compliment to the grand festival. The platform, on account of the uncertainty of the weather, had a shelving roof, which was covered with a kind of sail-cloth ; but near the place where I was, an honest Jack Tar climbed up to the top and stripped off the covering, which gave us not only a more extensive view, but let the light in upon every part of the procession. I should tell you, that a rank of foot soldiers was placed on each side within the platform ; and it was not a little surprising to see the officers familiarly conversing and walking arm and arm with many of them, till we were let into the secret, that they were gentlemen who had put on the dresses of common soldiers, for what purpose I need not mention. On the outside were stationed, at proper distances, several parties of horse-guards, whose horses, indeed, somewhat incommoded the people, that pressed incessantly upon them, by their prancing and capering ; though, luckily, I do not hear of any great mischief being done. I must confess, it gave me much pain, to see the soldiers, both horse and foot, most unmercifully belabouring the heads of the mob with their broad-swords, bayonets, and muskets ; but it was not unpleasant

pleasant to observe several tipping the horse soldiers sily from time to time (some with halfpence, and some with silver, as they could muster up the cash) to let them pass between the horses to get nearer the platform; after which these unconscionable gentry drove them back again. As soon as it was day-break (for I chose to go to my place overnight) we were diverted with seeing the coaches and chairs of the nobility and gentry passing along with much ado; and several persons very richly dressed, were obliged to quit their equipages, and be escorted by the soldiers through the mob to their respective places. Several carriages, I am told, received great damage: Mr. Jennings, whom you know, had his chariot broke to pieces; but providentially neither he nor Mrs. Jennings, who were in it, received any hurt.

“ Their majesties (to the shame of those be it spoken who were not so punctual) came in their chairs from St. James's through the Park to Westminster about nine o'clock. The king went into a room which they call the Court of Wards, and the queen into that belonging to the gentleman-usher of the Black-rod. The nobility and others, who were to walk in the procession, were mustered and ranged by the officers of arms in the Court of Requests, Painted Chamber, and House of Lords, from whence the cavalcade was conducted into Westminster Hall. As you know all the avenues and places about the Hall, you will not be at a loss to understand me. My pass-ticket would have been of no service, if I had not prevailed on one of the guards, by the irresistible argument of half-a-crown, to make way for me through the mob to the Hall-gate, where I got admittance just as their majesties were seated at the upper end, under magnificent canopies. Her majesty's chair was on the left hand of his majesty; and they were attended by the great chamberlain, lord high constable, earl marshal, and other great officers. Four swords, I observed, and as many spurs, were presented in form, and then placed upon a table before the king.

“ There was a neglect, it seems, somewhere; in not sending for the dean and prebendaries of Westminster, &c. who, not finding themselves summoned, came of their own accord, preceded by the choristers, singers, &c. among whom was your favourite, as indeed he is of every one, Mr. Beard. The Hall gate was now thrown open to admit this lesser procession from the Abbey, when the bishop of Rochester (that is, the dean) and his attendants brought the Bible and the following regalia of the king, *viz.* St. Edward's crown, rested on a cushion of gold cloth, the orb with the cross, a sceptre with the dove on the top, another tipt with a cross, and what they call St. Edward's staff. The queen's regalia were brought at the same time, *viz.* her crown upon a cushion, a sceptre with a cross, and a rod of ivory with a dove. These were severally laid before their majesties, and afterwards delivered to the respective officers who were to bear them in the procession.

“ Considering the length of the cavalcade, and the numbers that were to walk, it is no wonder that there should be much confusion in marshalling the ranks. At last, however, every thing was regularly adjusted, and the procession began to quit the Hall between eleven and twelve. The platform leading to the west door of the Abbey was covered with blue baize for the train to walk on; but there seemed to me a defect in not covering the upright posts that supported the awning, as it is called, (for they looked mean and naked) with that or some other coloured cloth. As I carry you along, I shall wave mentioning the minute particulars of the procession, and only observe that the nobility walked two by two. Being willing to see the procession pass along the platform through the streets, I hastened from the Hall, and by the assistance of a soldier made my way to my former station at the corner of Bridge Street, where the windows commanded a double view at the turning. I shall not attempt to describe the splendor and magnificence of the whole; and words must fall short of that innate joy and satisfaction which the spectators felt and expressed, especially

as their majesties passed by ; on whose countenance a dignity suited to their station, tempered with the most amiable complacency, was sensibly impressed. It was observable that as their majesties and the nobility passed the corner which commanded a prospect of Westminster Bridge, they stopped short, and turned back to look at the people, whose appearance, as they all had their hats off, and were thick planted on the ground, which rose gradually, I can compare to nothing but a pavement of heads and faces.

“ I had the misfortune not to be able to get to the Abbey time enough to see all that passed there ; nor, indeed, when I got in, could I have so distinct a view as I could have wished. But our friend Harry Whitaker had the luck to be stationed in the first row of the gallery behind the seats allotted for the nobility, close to the square platform which was erected by the altar, with an ascent of three steps, for their majesties to be crowned on. You are obliged to him, therefore, for several particulars which I could not otherwise have informed you of. He tells me, as soon as their majesties entered the church, the choir struck up with an anthem ; and, after they were seated, and the usual recognition and oblations were made, the litany was chanted by the bishops of Chester and Chichester, and the responses made by the whole choir, accompanied by the whole band of music. Then the first part of the communion-service was read ; after which a sermon was preached by the bishop of Salisbury, now archbishop of York. I was not near enough to hear it, nor, perhaps you will say, did I much desire it ; but, by my watch, it lasted only fifteen minutes. This done, Harry says he saw very distinctly his majesty subscribe the declaration, and take the coronation oath, the solemnity of which struck him with an unspeakable awe and reverence ; and he could not help reflecting on the glorious privilege which the English enjoy, of binding their kings by the most sacred ties of conscience and religion. The king was then anointed by his grace of Canterbury on the crown of his head, his breast, and the palms of his hands ; after which he was presented with the spurs, and girt with the sword,

sword, and was then invested with the coronation robes, the armills, as they are called, and the imperial pall. The orb with the cross was also presented, and the ring was put upon the fourth finger of his majesty's right hand by the archbishop, who then delivered the sceptre with the cross, and the other with the dove; and being assisted by several bishops, he lastly placed the crown reverently upon his majesty's head. A profound awful silence had reigned till this moment, when, at the very instant the crown was let fall on the king's head, a person having been placed on the top of the Abbey dome, from whence he could look down into the chancel, with a flag which he dropt as a signal; the Park and Tower guns began to fire, the trumpets sounded, and the Abbey echoed with the repeated shouts and acclamations of the people. The peers, who before this time had their coronets in their hands, now put them on, as the bishops did their caps, and the representatives of the dukes of Aquitaine and Normandy their hats. The knights of the Bath in particular made a most splendid figure, when they put on their caps, which were adorned with large plumes of white feathers. It is to be observed, that there were no commoners knights of the Garter; consequently, instead of caps and vestments peculiar to their order, they, being all peers, wore the robes and coronets of their respective ranks. I should mention, that the kings of arms also put on coronets.

" Silence again assumed her reign, and the shouts ceasing, the archbishop proceeded with the rest of the divine service; and after he had presented the Bible to his majesty, and solemnly read the benedictions, his majesty kissed the archbishops and bishops one after another as they knelt before him. The *Te Deum* was now performed, and this being ended, his majesty was elevated on a superb throne, which all the peers approached in their order, and did their homages.

" The coronation of the queen was performed in nearly the same manner with that of his majesty; the archbishop anointed her with the holy oil on the head and breast, and after

after he had put the crown upon her head, it was a signal for Princess Augusta and the peeresses to put on their coronets. Her majesty then received the sceptre with the cross, and the ivory rod with the dove, and was conducted to a magnificent throne on the left hand of his majesty.

“ I cannot but lament that I was not near enough to observe their majesties going through the most serious and solemn acts of devotion ; but I am told, that the reverent attention which both paid, when (after having made their second oblations) the next ceremony was, their receiving the holy communion, it brought to the mind of every one near them, a proper recollection of the consecrated place in which they were. Prayers being over, the king and queen retired into St. Edward’s chapel, just behind the altar. You must remember it—it is where the superstition of the Roman Catholics has robbed the tomb of that royal confessor of some of its precious ornaments: here their majesties received each of them a crown of state, as it is called, and a procession was made in the same manner as before, except in some trifling instances, back again to Westminster Hall, all wearing their coronets, caps, &c. You know I have often said, that if one loses an hour in the morning, one may ride after it the whole day without being able to overtake it. This was the case in the present instance ; for, to whatever causes it might be owing, the procession most assuredly set off too late: besides, according to what Harry observed, there were such long pauses between some of the ceremonies in the Abbey, as plainly shewed all the actors were not perfect in their parts. However it be, it is impossible to conceive the chagrin and disappointment which the late return of the procession occasioned ; it being so late indeed, that the spectators, even in the open air, had but a very dim and gloomy view of it, while to those who had sat patiently in Westminster Hall, waiting its return for six hours, scarce a glimpse of it appeared, as the branches were not lighted till just upon his majesty’s entrance. I had flattered myself that a new scene of splendid grandeur would have been presented to us in the return of the procession,

cession, from the reflection of the lights, &c. and had therefore posted back to the Hall with all possible expedition; but not even the brilliancy of the ladies jewels, or the greater lustre of their eyes, had the power to render our *darkness visible*; the whole was confusion, irregularity, and disorder.

“ However, we were afterwards amply recompensed for this partial eclipse by the bright picture which the lighting of the chandeliers presented to us. Your unlucky law-suit has made you too well acquainted with Westminster Hall for me to think of describing it to you; but I assure you the face of it was greatly altered from what it was when you attended to hear the verdict given against you. Instead of the inclosures for the courts of Chancery and King’s Bench at the upper end, which were both removed, a platform was raised with several ascents of steps, where their majesties in their chairs of state, and the royal family, sat at table. On each side, down the whole length of the Hall, the rest of the company were seated at long tables, in the middle of which were placed, on elevations painted to represent marble, the desserts, &c. Conceive to yourself, if you can conceive, what I own I am at a loss to describe, so magnificent a building as that of Westminster Hall, lighted up with near three thousand wax-candles in most splendid branches; our crowned heads, and almost the whole nobility, with the prime of our gentry, most superbly arrayed, and adorned with a profusion of the most brilliant jewels; the galleries on every side crowded with company for the most part elegantly and richly dressed: but to conceive it in all its lustre, I am conscious that it is absolutely necessary one must have been present. To proceed in my narration — Their majesties table was served with three courses, at the first of which Earl Talbot, as steward of his majesty’s household, rode up from the Hall gate to the steps leading to where their majesties sat; and on his returning the spectators were presented with an unexpected sight, in his lordship’s backing his horse, that he might keep his face still towards the king. A loud clapping and huzzaing consequently

quently ensued from the people present. The ceremony of the champion, you may remember we laughed at, at its representation last winter; but I assure you it had a very serious effect on those ladies who were near him (though his horse was very gentle) as he came up, accompanied by Lord Effingham as earl-marshal, and the Duke of Bedford as lord high-constable, likewise on horseback: it is needless to repeat what passed on this occasion. I am told, that the horse which the champion rode was the same that his late majesty was mounted on at the glorious and memorable battle of Dettingen. The beast, as well as the rider, had his head adorned with a plume of white, red, and blue feathers.

“ You cannot expect that I should give you a bill of fare, or enumerate the number of dishes that were provided and sent from the temporary kitchens erected in Cotton Garden for this purpose. No less than sixty haunches of venison, with a surprizing quantity of all sorts of game, were laid in for this grand feast: but that which chiefly attracted our eyes, was their majesties dessert, in which the confectioner had lavished all his ingenuity in rock-work and emblematical figures. The other desserts were no less admirable for their expressive devices. But I must not forget to tell you, that when the company came to be seated, the poor knights of the Bath had been overlooked, and no table provided for them: an airy apology, however, was served up to them instead of a substantial dinner; but the two junior knights, in order to preserve their rank of precedency to their successors, were placed at the head of the judges table, above all the learned brethren of the coif. The peers were placed on the outermost side of the tables, and the peeresses within, nearest to the walls. You cannot suppose that there was the greatest order imaginable observed during the dinner, but must conclude, that some of the company were as eager and impatient to satisfy the craving of their appetite as any of your country 'squires at a race or assize ordinary.

“ It was pleasant to see the various stratagems made use of by the company in the galleries to come in for a snack of the

the good things below. The ladies clubbed their handkerchiefs to be tied together to draw up a chicken or a bottle of wine ; nay, even garters (I will not say of a different sex) were united for the same purpose. Some had been so provident as to bring baskets with them, which were let down, like the prisoners boxes at Ludgate or the Gate House, with a *Pray, remember the poor.*

“ You will think it high time that I should bring this long letter to a conclusion. Let it suffice then to acquaint you, that their majesties returned to St. James’s a little after ten o’clock at night ; but they were pleased to give time for the peeresses to go first, that they might not be incommoded by the pressure of the mob to see their majesties. After the nobility were departed, the illustrious *mobility* were (according to custom) admitted into the Hall, which they presently cleared of all the moveables, such as the victuals, cloths, plates, dishes, &c. and, in short, every thing that could stick to their fingers.

“ I need not tell you, that several coronation medals, in silver, were thrown among the populace at the return of the procession. One of them was pitched into Mrs. Dixon’s lap, as she sat upon a scaffold in Palace Yard. Some, it is said, were also thrown among the peeresses in the Abbey just after the king was crowned ; but they thought it below their dignity to stoop to pick them up.

“ My wife desires her compliments to you : she was *hugely* pleased with the sight. All friends are well, except that little Nancy Green has got a swelled face, by being up all night ; and Tom Moffat has his leg laid upon a stool, on account of a broken shin, which he got by a kick from a trooper’s horse, as a reward for his mobbing it. I shall say nothing of the illuminations at night : the newspapers must have told you of them, and that the Admiralty in particular was remarkably lighted up. I expect to have from you an account of the rejoicings at your little town ; and desire to know whether you was able to get a slice of the ox which was roasted whole on this occasion.

" Since my writing the above, I have been informed for certain, that the sword of state, by some mistake, being left behind at St. James's, the lord mayor's sword was carried before the king by the Earl of Huntingdon, in its stead; but when the procession came into the Abbey, the sword of state was found placed upon the altar.

" Our friend Harry, who was upon the scaffold, at the return of the procession closed in with the rear; at the expence of half-a-guinea was admitted into the Hall; got brim-full of his majesty's claret; and, in the universal plunder, brought off the glass her majesty drank in, which is placed in the beaufait as a valuable curiosity."

In the beginning of March 1761, the king acquired great popularity, by recommending from the throne a method for securing the independence of the judges. He informed both houses of parliament, that, upon granting new commissions to the judges of assize, the present state of their offices fell naturally under consideration: that, notwithstanding the act of William the Third, for settling the succession to the crown, by which act the commissions of the judges were continued in force during their good behaviour, yet their offices had determined at the demise of the crown, or in six months after that event, as often as it had happened: that as he thought the independence and uprightness of the judges as essential to the impartial administration of justice, one of the best securities to the rights and liberties of his subjects, as well as conducive to the honour of the crown, he recommended this interesting object to the consideration of parliament, that such further provision might be made for securing the judges in the enjoyment of their offices during their good behaviour, notwithstanding any such demise, as should be most expedient: that he hoped the commons would enable him to grant, and establish upon the judges, such salaries as he should think proper, so as to be absolutely secured to them during the continuance of their commissions: and that he could not omit the present opportunity of thanking both houses for the great unanimity and application with which they had hitherto carried on the pub-

lic business; exhorting them to proceed with the same good disposition, and with such dispatch, that this session might be brought to a happy conclusion.

The speech was received with that universal applause, which it so well deserved. The commons unanimously resolved to evince their gratitude in an address to the throne. They assured the king, that his faithful commons saw, with joy and veneration, the warm regard and concern which animated his royal breast for the security of the religion, laws, liberties, and properties of his subjects: that the house would immediately proceed upon the important work recommended by his majesty; and would enable him to establish the salaries of the judges in such a permanent manner, that they might be enjoyed during the continuance of their commissions. They instantly began to deliberate upon this business. Their resolutions terminated in a law, enacting, among other particulars, that such part of the salaries of the judges as was before payable out of the yearly sums granted for the support of the king's household, and of the honour and dignity of the crown, should, after the demise of his present majesty, be charged upon all duties or revenues, granted for the use of the civil government, as should subsist after the demise of his majesty. Thus the individuals, intrusted with the administration of the laws, were effectually emancipated from the power of the prerogative, and of improper influence*.

There yet remained one grand exhibition to be performed, in order to complete the pageantry of the year. According to antient custom the citizens of London have preserved an opportunity of testifying their affection to every new king, by entertaining him at Guildhall on the first mayoralty that commences after his accession. Sir Samuel Fludyer was the lord mayor who had the honour of receiving this royal visit the forms and ceremonies of which were thus conducted:

On the morning of the ninth of November, the lord mayor elect, together with the aldermen, sheriffs, and other

* Lyttelton's Hist. of England.

officers,

officers, met at the Mansion House about ten o'clock, and proceeded to the Three Cranes, where they took water, and repaired to Westminster, and his lordship, as usual, was sworn into his office before the barons of the Exchequer.

During that ceremony their majesties, with the royal family, entered the city in the following order :

His royal highness the Duke of Cumberland in his coach drawn by six horses, preceded and followed by guards.

Her royal highness the Princess Amelia, in the same manner.

His royal highness the Duke of York, in a new and superb state coach, followed and preceded by guards.

Their royal highnesses Prince William, Henry, and Frederick, in one coach, in the same manner.

Their royal highnesses the Princess Dowager of Wales, the Princess Augusta, and the Princess Caroline, in one coach, preceded by twelve footmen in black caps, with guards, and a grand retinue.

Their majesties in their state coach, preceded by the Earl of Harcourt in his chariot, and the Dukes of Rutland and Devonshire in another chariot; and followed by the yeomen and a party of horse and grenadier guards.

After their majesties came a great number of equipages belonging to the nobility and gentry, the judges, foreign ambassadors, ladies, &c. by which means the procession was made extensive as well as brilliant. But the most remarkable circumstance that distinguished this grand parade, were the prodigious acclamations and tokens of regard bestowed on Mr. Pitt, who, accompanied by Lord Temple, came in the rear of the procession. At every stop the multitude hung about the carriage, and would willingly have unharnessed the horses and drawn the carriage themselves. They kept continually shouting all the way, and the gentlemen and ladies in the balconies and windows testified their respect by waving their hats and handkerchiefs to him as he passed.

When their majesties came to the east end of St. Paul's Church-yard, they were addressed in a speech adapted to the occasion, and spoken by the senior scholar of the gram-

mar school in Christ's Hospital; two copies of which were, afterwards presented to their majesties, and graciously received*.

The royal family then went to the house of Mr. Barclay, opposite Bow Church, in Cheapside, which on this occasion was decorated in a very sumptuous manner; whence they beheld the city procession, and testified their approbation of its grandeur and magnificence.

The lord mayor's coach was drawn by six beautiful iron-gray horses, richly caparisoned and adorned with ribbons; and the respective companies made a most noble and brilliant appearance.

The Armourers and Braziers, as also the Skinners and Fishmongers, particularly distinguished themselves on this occasion. The former had a youth, dressed as an American prince, riding in his car, with a bow in his left hand, and a quiver and arrows hanging behind his left shoulder: also a

* The speech was couched in the following terms:—

"Most august and gracious Sovereign!

"From the condescension and goodness, which your majesty displays towards even the meanest of your subjects, we are emboldened to hope you will accept the tribute of obedience and duty, which we, poor orphans, are permitted to present you.

"Educated and supported by the munificence of a charity, founded, enlarged, and protected by your royal predecessors, with the warmest gratitude we acknowledge our inexpressible obligations to its bounty, and the distinguished happiness we have hitherto enjoyed under the constant patronage of former princes. May this ever be our boast and glory! Nor can we think we shall prefer our prayer in vain, whilst, with earnest, but humble supplications, we implore the patronage and protection of your majesty.

"To our ardent petition for your princely favour may we presume, dread sovereign, to add our most respectful congratulations on your auspicious marriage with your royal consort. Strangers to the disquietude which often dwells within the circle of a crown, long may your majesties experience the heart-felt satisfaction of domestic life in the uninterrupted possession of every endearment of the most tender union, every blessing of conjugal affection, every comfort of parental felicity, and may a race of princes, your illustrious issue and descendants, formed by the example, and inheriting the virtues of their great and good progenitors, continue to sway the British sceptre to the latest posterity."

MAN

man in complete armour. The Skinners were distinguished by seven of their company being dressed in fur, with their skins painted in the form of Indian princes. The pageant of the Fishmongers consisted of a statue of St. Peter finely gilt, with a dolphin, two mermaids, and two sea horses.

The grand procession being closed, their majesties and the royal family were conducted by the sheriffs to Guildhall, at the entrance of which they were received by the lord mayor, who, kneeling, presented the city sword to the king, which being returned, his lordship conducted his majesty to the Council Chamber, where the compliments of the city were made on this royal visit. Here his majesty conferred the honour of knighthood on Nathaniel Nash and John Cartwright, Esqrs. the sheriffs; as also on Thomas Fludyer, Esq. brother to the lord mayor.

From the Council Chamber the royal family were conducted to the Hustings, where an entertainment was provided, which, for magnificence and order, was generally allowed to exceed that at the coronation. His majesty was so highly pleased with it as to declare, "that to be elegantly entertained he must come into the city." The foreign ministers in general expressed great surprize; one of them in particular observed, "that this entertainment was fit only for one king to give to another."

The ball in the evening was opened by his royal highness the Duke of York, his majesty's brother, and the lady mayoress: and minuets were danced by some others of the royal family, the nobility, &c. The dancing continued till twelve o'clock, when their majesties and the royal family left the hall; but the crowd of carriages and people was so great, that they did not reach St. James's till two in the morning. The houses both in London and Westminster, on their return, were illuminated.

When Mr. Pitt left the hall, he was saluted in the same manner as when he entered the city; and the people continued to surround the chariot all the way to his house.

The rest of the company did not separate till after three in the morning; and the whole was concluded with the utmost regularity and decorum.

Report of the Committee appointed to provide an Entertainment for the King and the Royal Family.

AT A COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL held June 17, 1762, the following report was presented to the court:

“ To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

“ We, your committee appointed by your order, of the third day of October last, to manage the entertainment for their majesties at the Guildhall of this city, on the then ensuing lord mayor's day, beg leave to report, that, duly sensible of the great honour done us in this appointment, we cheerfully devoted our time and utmost endeavours to prepare and regulate the said entertainment, so as best to answer the intention of this honourable court.

“ In the preparations for the intended feast, your committee omitted no expence that might serve to improve its splendor, elegance, or accommodation; whilst, on the other hand, they retrenched every charge that was not calculated to that end, however warranted by former precedents. Their majesties having expressed their royal inclinations to see the procession of the lord mayor to Guildhall, the committee obtained Mr. Barclay's house in Cheapside, for that purpose, where proper refreshments were provided, and every care taken to accommodate their majesties with a full view of the whole cavalcade.

“ The great Hall and adjoining apartments were decorated and furnished with as much taste and magnificence as the shortness of the time for preparation, and the nature of a temporary service, would permit: the hustings where their majesties dined, and the new Council Chamber, to which they retired both before and after dinner, being spread with Turkey carpets, and the rest of the floors over which their majesties were to pass, with blue cloth, and the whole illuminated with near three thousand wax tapers in chandeliers, lustres, girandoles, and sconces.

“ A select

“ A select band of music, consisting of fifty of the best hands, placed in a superb gallery, erected on purpose at the lower end of the hall, entertained their majesties with a concert during the time of dinner, under the direction of a gentleman celebrated for his great musical talents; whilst four other galleries (all covered with crimson, and ornamented with festoons) exhibited to their majesties a most brilliant appearance of life of the principal citizens of both sexes.

“ Their majesties table was served with a new set of rich plate, purchased on this occasion, and covered with all the delicacies which the season could furnish, or expence procure, and prepared by the best hands.

“ A proportionable care was taken of the several other tables provided for the foreign ambassadors and ministers. The lords and gentlemen of his majesty's most honourable privy council; the lord chancellor and judges; the lords and ladies in waiting; the lord mayor, aldermen, sheriffs, and common council; and many others, both of the nobility and gentry. The whole number of guests within the hall, including the galleries, being upwards of twelve hundred; and that of the gentlemen pensioners, yeomen of the guards, and servants attendant upon their majesties, and the royal family; and who were entertained at places provided in the neighbourhood, amounting to seven hundred and twenty-nine.

“ And that this court may form some judgment of the manner of the entertainment, your committee have heretofore subjoined the bill of fare of their majesty's table, and the total bill on this occasion, amounting to 6898*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* which your committee have the satisfaction to acquaint this honourable court, have been all ordered for payment.

“ Your committee likewise, having provided a great variety of the choicest wines, took care that every guest should be supplied with plenty and dispatch; and yet the various services performed without hurry or confusion.

“ For this purpose your committee issued no more tickets for admission than what (considering the necessary number of

of attendants, amounting to two hundred and forty persons) would fill the Hall, without incommoding the royal personages for whom the feast was intended.

“ And to prevent as much as possible the intrusion of strangers (too frequent on such occasions) your committee directed a temporary porch to be erected in the front of the Hall, where gentlemen of trust were placed at three several bars.

“ Upon the whole your committee omitted no care or pains to render the entertainment as commodious and agreeable as possible to the royal guests; and in some measure expressive of the zeal and veneration of this honourable court for their august sovereign, his most amiable consort and illustrious family, and of that sense of his gracious condescension in honouring this city with his royal presence: Happy if they have, in any degree, answered expectation, and are allowed to have done justice to the honourable trust reposed in them, signed this 15th day of June 1762.

S. FLUDYER,	CHARLES MEREDITH,
ROB. ALSOP,	JOHN RIVINGTON,
RICHARD GLYN,	THOMAS COGAN,
FRANCIS GOSLING,	EDWARD WALDO,
THOMAS LONG,	W. REEVES,
ROBERT WILSONN,	SAMUEL FREEMAN,
FRANCIS ELLIS,	WM. TYSER,
HENRY KENT,	JOHN PATERSON.”
JAMES WALTON,	

THE KING'S TABLE.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
FIRST SERVICE.				Two dishes pullets a la			
Twelve dishes of olio,				royale - - -	2	2	0
turtle, pottages, and				Two dishes tongues es-			
soups - - -	44	2	0	pagniole - - -	3	3	0
Twelve ditto fish, viz.				Six dishes chickens a la			
John dories, red mullet,				reine - - -	6	6	0
&c. - - -	44	2	0	One ditto tondron devaux			
Seven ditto roast venison	10	0	0	a la danzie - - -	2	2	0
Three Westphalia hams				One harrico - - -	1	1	
consume, and richly or-				One dish popiets of veal			
namented - - -	6	6	0	glasse - - -	1	4	0
				Two			

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Two dishes fillets of lamb				One dish cardons a la be-			
a la conte - - -	2	2	0	jamel - - -	0	10	6
Two ditto comports of				One ditto knots of eggs	0	10	6
squabs - - -	2	2	0	One ditto ducks tongues	0	10	6
Two ditto fillets of beef				Three dishes of peths	1	11	6
marinate - - -	3	0	0	One dish of truffles in oil	0	10	6
Two ditto of mutton a la				Four dishes of pallets	2	2	0
memorance - - -	2	2	0	Two ditto ragout mille	2	2	0
Thirty-two ditto fine ve-				FOURTH SERVICE.			
getables - - -	16	16	0	Two curious ornamental			
SECOND SERVICE.				cakes - - -	2	12	0
Six dishes fine ortolans	25	4	0	Twelve dishes blomanges,			
Ten ditto quails - - -	15	0	0	representing different			
Ten ditto notts - - -	30	0	0	figures - - -	12	12	0
One ditto wheat-ears	1	1	0	Twelve ditto clear mar-			
One goodevau patte - -	1	10	0	brays - - -	14	8	0
One perrigoa pye - - -	1	10	0	Sixteen ditto fine cut			
One dish pea-chicks - -	1	1	0	pastry - - -	16	16	0
Two dishes woodcocks	4	4	0	Two ditto mille fuelles	1	10	6
Two ditto pheasants - -	3	3	0	CENTRE OF THE TABLE.			
Four ditto teal - - -	3	3	0	One grand pyramid of			
Four ditto snipes - - -	3	3	0	demies of shell fish of			
Two ditto partridges - -	2	2	0	various sorts - - -	2	2	0
Two ditto patty's royal	3	0	0	Thirty-two cold things of			
THIRD SERVICE.				sorts, viz. temples,			
One ragout royal - - -	1	1	0	shapes, landscapes in			
Eight dishes fine green				jellies, savoury cakes,			
morells - - -	8	8	0	and almond gothes	33	12	0
Ten ditto fine green peas	10	10	0	Two grand epergues, fil-			
Three ditto asparagus				led with fine pickles,			
heads - - -	2	2	0	and garnished round			
Three ditto fine fat livers	1	11	6	with plates of sorts,			
Three ditto fine combs	1	11	6	as laspicks, rolards,			
Five ditto green truffles	5	5	0	&c. - - -	6	6	0
Five ditto artichokes a la				Total of the king's			
provençale - - -	2	12	6	table - - -	374	1	0
Five ditto mushrooms au							
blank - - -	2	12	6				

TOTALS OF THE SEVERAL BILLS.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Mr. Geo. Dance, clerk				Ditto tea, coffee, &c. for			
of the works - - -	65	4	6	the committee - - -	31	13	0
Mr. Rich. Gripton, cof-				Mr. John Read, car-			
fee man - - -	36	10	0	penter - - -	876	6	0
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				Mr.			

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Mr. Kuhff, confectioner	212	1	0	Mr. Tho. Gilpin, plate	57	17	0
Mr. Wilder, ditto	-	121	14	0	Mr. Deputy Samuel		
Mr. Scott, ditto	-	91	14	0	Ellis, and Richard		
Messrs. Kuhff, Wilder,					Cleeve, pewterers	264	3
and Scott, ditto	-	174	9	0	Mr. Chrif. Dent, butler	190	0
Mr. Baughan, wax-					Mr. Rob. Dixon, baker	8	0
chandler	-	31	0	0	Mrs. Rachel Stevens,		
Mr. Garrard, ditto	-	30	12	0	brewer	-	8
Mrs. Jones, ditto	-	30	12	0	Mess. Barber and Shut-		
Mr. Cotterel, chinaman	30	11	0		tleworth, fruiterers	100	0
Mr. Vere, ditto	-	18	12	0	Mess. Mason and Whit-		
Mr. Wyld, Paul's Head					worth, ribbands	-	7
tavern	-	47	13	0	Mr. Cha. Gardner, en-		
Mr. Edw. Wix, brick-					graver	-	23
layer	-	147	16	0	Artillery Company	-	20
Mr. Chas. Easton, ma-					Mr. Cha. Rivington,		
son	-	6	4	0	printer	-	3
Messrs. Alexander and					City music	-	13
Shrimpton, smiths	300	11	0		Mr. Bromwich, papier		
Mr. Peter Roberts, re-					maché	-	70
membrancer	-	63	0	0	Mr. Jas. Dobson, Bear		
Messrs. Wareham, Os-					inn, Basinghall Street	42	15
wald, Angel, Horton,					Mr. Handford, Swan		
and Birch, cooks	1600	0	0		with Two Necks, Lad		
Mr. Stanley, band of					Lane	-	50
music	-	115	0	0	Mr. John Greenhow,		
Mr. Tho. Pattle, hall-					Castle, Wood Street	29	5
keeper	-	126	0	0	Mr. Rd. Overall, Blos-		
Messrs. Chesson, Saun-					soms inn, Lawrence		
ders, and Wood-					Lane	-	34
roffe, upholsterers	458	19	0		Mr. Tho. Whaley, Bell		
Messrs. Allan, wine	178	12	0		inn, Wood Street	-	12
Mr. Francis Magnus,					Mr. R. Walkden, sta-		
ditto	-	175	8	0	tioner	-	6
Mr. Frederick Stand-					City marshal	-	100
ert, hock	-	116	8	0	Mrs. Mary Harrington,		
Messrs. Brown and					glazier	-	15
Righton, wine	-	48	5	0	Messrs. Willis and Ma-		
Mr. Tho. Burfoot and					chel, plumbers	-	63
Son, woollen dra-					Messrs. Pope and Son,		
pers	-	258	5	0	painters	-	27
Messrs. Pistor and Son,					Heron Powney, Esq.		
ditto	-	74	13	0	sword bearer's claim	5	0

Mr.

LONDON.

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	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Mr. William Palmer,				Six marshal's men	1	10	0
senior, attorney of the				Six necessary women	6	6	0
lord mayor's court,				Town clerk's servants	5	5	0
claim - - -	2	0	0	Chamberlain's house-			
Serjeants of the cham-				hold servants	5	5	0
ber, for delivery of				Mess. Chesson, Wood-			
the tickets, &c.	4	10	0	roffe, and Saunders,			
Yeoman of the cham-				extra bill	10	10	0
ber's claim - -	4	0	0	Mr. Tho. Gilpin, for			
Peter Denny, for light-				use of plate	20	0	0
ing the chandeliers	20	0	0	Mr. Chamberlain's clerks	5	5	0
Sir James Hodges, town				Dan. Philpot, Esq. cook			
clerk, for attending				to his majesty	10	10	0
the committee	157	10	0	Tho. Denny, for at-			
Wm. Rix, clerk to Sir				tending the commit-			
J. Hodges, for ditto	15	15	0	tee	1	1	0
Andrew Boson, hall-							
keeper's man	10	10	0	Total	6898	3	4

It was ordered that the said report be entered in the journal of the court ; and the following motion being made, was unanimously agreed to.

“ That the thanks of this court be, and are hereby given, to the committee appointed to conduct the entertainment of their majesties and the royal family at Guildhall, on lord mayor's day last, for their constant and spirited attention, in that service, to the honour of the crown, and the dignity of this city.”

The corporation, at a common council held the 18th of this month, resolved, “ That a statue of his majesty should be erected in the Royal Exchange ; and that portraits of him and his consort should be placed in Guildhall,” where they still continue.

But that the public attention should not be misemployed during this æra of pomp and festivity, an amusement of a different kind was prepared to feast public credulity ; this was contrived by that strange deception, denominated THE COCK LANE GHOST.

In 1759, a broker married a young lady of Norfolk, who dying in childbed, her sister came to reside with him in the

character of a housekeeper. In this familiar situation they continued some time, during which they conceived an affection for each other, inconsistent with the canon law. Each of them made their will in the other's favour, and removing to town, lodged for some time in the house of one Parsons (officiating parish-clerk of St. Sepulchre's) in Cock Lane, near West Smithfield.

Some difference arising between the broker and his landlord, the former suddenly left his lodging, and removed to Clerkenwell. Here the young lady died of the small-pox on the 2d of February 1760, and was buried in Clerkenwell church.

Parsons now began to develope a curious scheme. An alarm was spread that his daughter, a girl about eleven years of age, was visited by a spirit, who, upon being interrogated, had declared itself the spirit of Fanny, the name of the deceased lady, that, she said, had been poisoned when ill of the small-pox. A worthy clergyman, however, who had attended the lady several times, and had administered to her the last comforts of his office, declared, that the small-pox with which she was seized was of the confluent sort, and that the gentlemen of the faculty had pronounced her irrecoverable some days before her death.

On the 13th of February 1762, between ten and eleven at night, Parsons sent for a gentleman in the neighbourhood to his house, as a witness of the strange noise and extraordinary circumstances supposed to arise from this invisible agent, which he said had for two years past greatly terrified his family.

The gentleman attended and found the child in bed ; when several questions being put to the spirit, who was supposed to be present, by the father, they were respectively answered by an unaccountable noise like that of knocking and scratching. The gentleman not choosing to pronounce too hastily upon what appeared to him so extraordinary, left the house, and the next evening got together a number of his friends, among whom were two or three clergymen, all
of

of whom went to the house on a determination of satisfying themselves by sitting up during the course of the night.

On their first entering the room they examined the bed, bed-cloaths, &c. and being satisfied there was not any visible appearance of deceit, the child was put into bed, which was immediately found to shake extremely by the gentleman who had placed himself at the foot.

During the course of the night a prodigious number of questions were put to the supposed spirit, all of which were answered either by knocking or scratching. An affirmative was one knock, and a negative, two: and the scratching intimated displeasure.

The noises appeared to proceed occasionally from the different parts of the room where the child lay; and as her presence was necessary to the production of these noises, the spirit declared it would follow her wherever she went. The circumstance of this strange visitation being reported, with many idle exaggerations, the public became so interested in it, that in all companies nothing was heard but remarks on the ghost in Cock Lane; and at this place superstition and curiosity brought a vast concourse of people of all ranks and conditions.

The farce was carried on for some time much to the advantage of the projectors. The girl was actually removed to other houses, where the noises equally accompanied her; and such an impression did this strange occurrence make even on those of superior understanding, that two clergymen became the avowed patrons of this inarticulate revelation.

The spirit, however, was at length decoyed into a promise that entirely destroyed its reputation. It had publicly declared, by an affirmative knock, that it would attend one of the gentlemen to the vault of St. John's church, Clerkenwell, where the body was buried, and then would give a token of its presence by a knock upon the coffin.

After this promise, the company were summoned into the girl's chamber by some ladies who were near her bed, and
4 had

had heard knocks and scratches. When the gentlemen entered, the girl declared that she felt the spirit like a mouse upon her back ; and, unfortunately for the scheme, was required to hold her hands out of bed. But though the spirit was very solemnly requested to manifest its existence by appearance, by impression on the hand or body of any present, by scratches, knocks, or any other agony, no evidence of any preternatural power exhibited itself.

The spirit was then duly informed, that the person to whom the promise was made of striking the coffin was then about to visit the vault, and that the performance of the promise was now claimed. At one o'clock in the morning the company went to the church, and the gentleman, with the clergymen, went into the vault, where the spirit was solemnly required to fulfil her promise ; but the company not seeing or hearing any thing preternatural, returned back to the house.

It was now the general opinion of the assembly, that the child had some art of making or counterfeiting particular noises ; but the friends of the ghost, in order to retrieve their reputation, spread a report that the coffin and body had been removed out of the vault ; the person accused now feelingly interested himself in defence of his reputation, and deprived them of this last refuge, by ordering the coffin to be opened before sufficient witnesses. The coffin was soon discovered by the undertaker, and being opened before the clergyman of the parish, the clerk, the sexton, and some others, the contents exhibited the melancholy remains of mortality.

The accused now thought it high time to vindicate his character in a legal manner ; when the whole was found a contrivance of Parsons, to be revenged on the other, who had sued him for a small sum of money lent while he lodged in the house ; and which he found it impossible otherwise to regain.

A bill of indictment was therefore preferred against Parsons and his wife, Mary Frazer, (a woman who lived in the house and officiated as interpreter between the ghost and the spectators)

spectators) one of the clergymen, and a tradesman, who had been active dupes in the affair, for a conspiracy. On the tenth of July the cause was heard before lord chief justice Mansfield and a special jury, in the court of King's Bench, Guildhall; when, after a trial of twelve hours, the parties were all convicted of the crimes with which they were charged.

The court, however, being willing that the prosecutor, who had been sensibly injured by this iniquitous transaction, should receive some reparation from the offenders, postponed their sentence for some months, in hopes the parties would make it up in the interim. The clergyman and tradesman compromised their part of the matter by a large sum of money, and were dismissed with a severe reprimand. Parsons was sentenced to stand in the pillory three times in one month, and to be imprisoned two years; his wife was imprisoned one year; and Mary Frazer was committed to Bridewell for six months.

This year was remarkable for the birth of the Prince of Wales; for the capture of valuable Spanish prizes; and for a law which took place for the regulation of the fishery, so that the metropolis might be better supplied with those articles of life.

By this law it was enacted, "That any person, though not a fishmonger, may buy, at any market, sea-coast, or river, &c. any fish in season, and sizeable, paying the accustomed dues at the place of purchase, and may sell the same again in any fish or flesh market, paying the usual market dues, Covent Garden market and the precincts thereof excepted.

"Such fish shall not be resold by the first purchaser, before the same shall be brought to London or Westminster, or to where consigned, under penalty of 20*l.* and shall be conveyed to the places consigned, without being liable to be stopped, and exposed to sale on the way.

"Carriages employed in this service shall carry fish only, and shall be marked on the outside, *Fish Machine Only*; and shall be entered at the office for licensing hackney-coaches,

coaches, paying 1s. for the registering; and numbered, on penalty of 40s. and shall not be liable to be deemed common stage waggons, &c.

“ They shall be permitted to travel with four horses in pairs, or with one horse, or three horses in length, though with narrow wheels, and shall only pay the like toll as post-chaises, &c. drawn by a like number of horses; and shall be allowed to travel on Sundays and holidays; as shall also the returned horses of such carriages; and neither carriage nor horses, if returning empty, shall be liable to pay toll; and if any game, or other thing besides fish, and the necessary implements of the carriage, be put therein for conveyance, the person putting in the same shall forfeit 5*l.* and if the driver shall take up, or suffer any passenger, game, or other thing, to be carried therein, he shall forfeit 40*s.* and on non-payment shall be committed and kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding one month.

“ If bulk shall be broke of any fish carriage consigned for the London markets, &c. before being brought within the bills of mortality, or sale made of the fish before they are exposed in the said markets, the offender forfeits 10*l.*

“ The fish, after being so brought up, shall be forthwith sorted, and exposed to sale in some public market the next morning, Sundays excepted; and until such fish is so exposed, no part thereof shall be sold by retail, on penalty of 10*l.* but mackrel brought up by such carriages, may be sold on Sundays.

“ All contracts made for fish, except for salmon and lobsters, are vacated after May 1, 1762, and the parties discharged from the penalties of their contracts; and persons contracting after the said time for buying up fish, other than salmon and lobsters, before the same shall be first brought to market, and duly exposed to sale there, shall forfeit 50*l.* and the contract is declared void.

“ And after May 1, 1762, no contract for British salmon and lobsters shall be in force longer than one year; and the like shall take place with respect to any parole contracts.

“ After

“ After May 1, 1762, no person shall employ, or be employed, in buying at the markets of London and Westminster, &c. any fish brought thither for sale, to be afterwards divided among fishmongers, or others, to be sold; nor shall any person buy, in the said markets, any fish but what shall be for his own sale or use, on penalty of 20*l*.

“ No salesman or other person shall refuse to sell, or enter into an agreement not to sell, to or for any particular person's use, any fish exposed to sale at a public market, on penalty of 20*l*.

“ And all fish of the respective sorts hereafter specified, brought after May 1, 1762, for sale to the London markets, shall be openly sold at the first hand, and in no greater number or quantity in a lot than is hereafter prescribed; and every lot shall consist of one sort of fish only, *viz*.

“ All fresh salmon, sturgeon, large fresh cod, skait, turbot, bret, bril, pearl, kingston, ling, and dorys, by the single fish: all half fresh cod, not exceeding two in any one lot: all quarter fresh cod, not exceeding four in any one lot: all mullets, cole-fish, salmon-trout, and other trouts, not exceeding two in any one lot: all small cod, not exceeding twenty-four in any one lot, in Billingsgate market, or within one hundred and fifty yards of Billingsgate Dock; and in any other market within the weekly bills of mortality, not exceeding eight in any one lot.

“ Small pike, Billingsgate, six in a lot; other markets four.

“ Large haddock, Billingsgate, four; other markets two.

“ Small haddock, Billingsgate, twenty-four; other markets eight.

“ Perch, above six inches long from the eye to the fork of the tail, Billingsgate, twelve; other markets eight.

“ Carp, gurnet, tench, and sea-bass, Billingsgate, six; other markets four.

“ Thornbacks, Billingsgate, two; other markets one.

“ Large soals, Billingsgate, four pair; other markets two pair.

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“ Small

“ Small soals, Billingsgate, eight pair ; other markets four pair.

“ Mackrel, whittings, whiting-pouts, plaice, dabbs, herrings, pilchards, garb-fish, flounders, and maids, Billingsgate, sixty ; other markets thirty.

“ Smelts, Billingsgate, fifty-two ; other markets twenty-six.

“ Eels, Billingsgate, twenty pound ; other markets ten pound, unless any single fish shall exceed that weight.

“ Large lobsters and crabs, of either sort, at Billingsgate, twenty ; other markets ten.

Small lobsters and crabs, Billingsgate, forty ; other markets ten.

“ None of the said several species of fish shall be bought or sold at the first hand, in the said markets, in a greater number or quantity in a lot than is prescribed above, nor more than one sort of fish in a lot shall be sold, or offered for sale, on penalty of 5*l*.

“ But a smaller number of any of the said fish than a lot consists of, if it contains more than one ; and also a lesser weight of eels than makes one lot, may be sold or exposed to sale in the said markets.

“ No fish shall be sold again, or exposed to sale the same day, in the same market where it was before sold, on penalty of 10*l*. but the buyer may sell the same, whilst sound and wholesome, in any other place.

“ Before any fish, to be sold at the first hand in any of the said markets, be exposed to sale, an account of the sorts, and quantity of each, in large legible characters, shall be put up at the fish-stand (the number of flounders, plaice, dabbs, excepted ; and also of mackrel, maids, herrings, and pilchards) ; and if any other fish of the sorts mentioned in the act be brought for sale, before the market of the day is over, they shall likewise be added to the account, before they are exposed to sale ; and the said accounts shall be kept up, undefaced, till all the fish be sold, or the market be over, on penalty of 5*l*. Or if any person, before such time,

time, shall wilfully take down, deface, or alter, the accounts so put up, or cause the same to be done, he shall forfeit 40s.

“ No fisherman, &c. after the arrival of his vessel from fishing, shall destroy, or cast away, any of the fish, not being unwholesome, perished, or unmarketable, remaining unsold after market is over, on penalty of being committed and kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding two months, nor less than one week.

“ The provisions in this act touching the sale or buying of fish within the bills of mortality, and penalties for non-observance thereof, shall extend to the parish of St. Mary-le-Bone in Middlesex.

“ The prohibitory clauses in this act against contracts shall not extend to those made, or to be made, with regard to salt or dried fish, oysters, carp, or tench.

“ No information shall be received by a justice against any person for being concerned in any contract for buying up fish to be sold again contrary to this act ; but the penalty for entering into such contract, shall be recoverable only, with double costs, in one of the courts of Westminster ; one moiety to go to Greenwich Hospital, and the other to the prosecutor.”

The year 1763, was productive of a peace between Great Britain and France, Spain, and other belligerent powers, which was signed at Fontainbleau, and proclaimed at the usual places.

A bill was at this time depending in parliament, not only for granting additional duties on wine, cyder and perry, but also to subject the makers of those articles to the excise laws, the court of common council, on the very day that peace was proclaimed, resolved to petition against it ; and the next day they prepared instructions for their members to oppose this new attempt, “ as being inconsistent with those principles of liberty which had hitherto distinguished this nation from arbitrary governments.” And so strenuously did the citizens exert themselves to crush this destructive bill, that on

the 28th of March, they petitioned each branch of the legislature separately against it; notwithstanding which it passed into a law. The act, however, was found to be productive of universal disturbance, not only in the cyder counties, but throughout the kingdom, and was, therefore, first altered, and afterwards repealed.

A cavalcade of a different nature from any we have hitherto described, took place on the 19th of April. M. Querini and M. Morosini, ambassadors extraordinary from the republic of Venice to the court of London, made their public entry. This ceremony not being very frequent, we shall endeavour to convey to our readers some idea of it.

The whole company assembled at Greenwich, whence they set off about twelve o'clock at noon, in a number of barges appointed for the purpose. Between two and three o'clock they landed at the Tower, and proceeded in the following order through the Minories, Leadenhall Street, Cornhill, Cheapside, Ludgate Street, Fleet Street, and along the Strand to Somerset House, which was appointed for their residence till their audience:

Four king's under-marshal-men on horseback.

City marshal on horseback.

Assistant master of the ceremonies, in a coach and six.

Thirty-eight servants, two and two, on foot.

Eight gentlemen of the bed-chambers, belonging to the ambassadors, on horseback, two and two.

House-steward, on horseback.

Eight pages on horseback, two and two.

Master of the horse.

Ten musicians on horseback, two and two.

Kettle drum.

Second master of the horse.

King's state coach drawn by six horses, with the ambassadors, the Earl of Guildford, and the master of the ceremonies.

King's second coach, drawn by six horses, with the two secretaries to the embassy.

Six gentlemen of the privy chamber, in the next royal coaches. The coaches belonging to her majesty, the Princess Dowager of Wales, the Duke of York, Princess Augusta, Duke of Cumberland, and Princess Amelia, all drawn by six horses each. The ambassador's grand state coach empty, drawn by eight horses.

The second coach empty, drawn by six horses.
The third coach, with two Venetian noblemen, draw by six horses.
The peers coaches and six.

On the 21st, their excellencies were conducted in great state from Somerset House to St. James's, where they were received by the guards on duty, under arms. They were then conducted to the little council chamber by the Earl of Sussex, and Sir Charles Cotterel Dormer, master of the ceremonies. At the door of the guard chamber they were received by the Lord Viscount Falmouth, captain of the yeomen of the guard: at the drawing-room door by the Earl of Litchfield, captain of the band of pensioners; and at the great council chamber, where his majesty gave them audience, by the duke of Marlborough, lord chamberlain.

M. Morosini addressed the king in Italian, and his majesty replied in English. Their excellencies then retired, and were admitted to an audience of the queen with the same ceremony; after which, they were conducted to a house in Great Ormond Street, which had been provided for them during their stay in England.

We have purposely, in the course of this history, avoided all subjects tending to political discussions of opinion; abiding by this obvious determination, we cannot enter into the merits of the party contests which convulsed the state atmosphere at this period. But we are necessitated to observe, that a stretch of arbitrary power in issuing General Warrants to search for persons and papers was fully checked*. Such processes

* The rage of party was at this time more inflamed than ever; and the press teemed with political pamphlets on both sides, couched in terms of the utmost virulence and abuse. Of these the ministry seemed totally regardless, till the appearance of the forty-fifth number of the North

processes were declared to be illegal, and lord chief justice Pratt, afterwards lord high chancellor, and a peer, by the title

North Briton. A rule for an information was now granted by the court of King's Bench against the authors, printers, and publishers of that paper, which contained a severe commentary on the king's speech at the close of the session of parliament on the nineteenth of April. John Wilkes, esquire, member of Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire, was the supposed author of this performance. A warrant was therefore issued by the secretary of state for taking Mr. Wilkes, together with the printer and publisher, into custody. Accordingly, on the evening of the twenty-ninth of April, the messengers repaired to Mr. Wilkes's house for that purpose. On their entrance he excepted to the *generality* of the warrant, which was thus drawn up:—*Charles Earl of Egremont, and George Dunk, Earl of Halifax, Lords of his majesty's most honourable privy council, and principal secretaries of state:*

“These are, in his majesty's name, to authorize and require you to receive into your custody the body of John Wilkes, esquire, herewith sent you, for being the author and publisher of a most infamous and seditious libel, entitled the North Briton, No. XLV. tending to inflame the minds and alienate the affections of the people from his majesty, and to excite them to traitorous insurrections against the government. And to keep him safe and close until he shall be delivered by due course of law, and in so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at St. James's, the thirtieth of April, 1763, in the third year of his majesty's reign.

(Signed) EGREMONT. L. S.
DUNK HALIFAX. L. S.”

As Mr. Wilkes's name, with its proper distinctions, was not mentioned in this warrant, he threatened the first who should offer violence to his person in his own house, at that unseasonable hour of the night, upon any pretended verbal order which they might, or might not, have received for that purpose. The messengers therefore, thought proper to retire, and defer the execution of their warrant till next morning, when they took him into custody, and conducted him to the secretaries of state for examination.

On the intimation of this event, application was made in the court of Common Pleas, then sitting in Westminster Hall, for a *Habeas Corpus*, which was granted; though by reason of the Prothonotary's office not being open, it could not be served till four o'clock in the afternoon. In the mean time, several gentlemen applied for admittance to Mr. Wilkes; which was refused, on pretence of an order from the secretaries of state, which order was never produced; and though it was well known that the court of Common Pleas had granted a *Habeas Corpus*, and Philip Carteret

title of Earl Camden, delivered his opinion very decisively against the illegality of several proceedings at this time, for which

teret Webb, esquire, was assured of the fact, Mr. Wilkes was committed to the Tower, where many of his friends were also refused admittance to him. On the third of May, he was brought to the bar of the court of Common Pleas, where he addressed himself to the judges on the illegality and hardships of his commitment in a very animated speech. The case was then argued by eminent lawyers on both sides; but the court, after making a polite excuse to Mr. Wilkes for the delay, (requiring further time to consider of the affair,) he was remanded to the Tower, till the sixth of May, with orders that his friends and lawyers should have free access to him. In the interim, orders were given, that Mr. Wilkes should no longer continue colonel of the militia for the county of Buckingham. On the day appointed, Mr. Wilkes was again brought to Westminster Hall, when after another spirited address to the court, lord chief justice Pratt, a firm and invariable friend to constitutional liberty, proceeded to give his opinion on the three following points, viz. The legality of Mr. Wilkes's commitment; the necessity for a specification of those particular passages in No. 45 of the North Briton, which had been deemed a libel; and his privilege as a member of parliament. These points were discussed by his lordship in a manner which greatly redounds to his honour: and his opinion having met with the approbation of the court, Mr. Wilkes was discharged. But before he had quitted the court, a gentleman of eminence in the law, stood up, and informed the lord chief justice, that he had just received a note from the attorney and solicitor-general, to desire his lordship would detain Mr. Wilkes till their arrival, as they had something to offer against his plea of privilege. This request, however, was not complied with; and Mr. Wilkes took his leave of the court.

A short time after Mr. Wilkes had been released from the Tower, he caused a printing press to be fixed, under his own direction, at his house in Great George Street, Westminster, where he advertised the proceedings of the administration, with all the original papers; and the North Briton was re-published. In the mean time an information was filed against him in the court of King's Bench, at his majesty's suit, as being author of the North Briton, No. 45; and on the meeting of parliament, a message was sent to the house of commons with the information his majesty had received, that John Wilkes, esquire, a member of that house, was the author of a most seditious and dangerous libel. The examinations and proofs of the said libel, together with the measures that had been taken thereon, were also laid before the house: in consequence of which, the North Briton, No. 45, was adjudged a false, scandalous, and seditious libel, and ordered to be burned by the hands of the common hangman. The operation of burning the North Briton, according

which his portrait was voted to be placed among the other upright expounders of the law, in Guildhall *. The following inscription underneath :

Hanc Iconem
CAROLI PRATT, Eq.
Summi Judicis C. B.
In Honorem Tanti Viri
Anglicæ Libertatis Lege Assertoris
Fidi
S. P. Q. L.
In Curia Municipali
Poni Jusserunt
Nono Kal. Mar. A. D. M DCC LXIV.
Gulielmo Bridgen, Arm. Præ. Urb.

according to the sentence, was committed to the superintendence of Mr. Alderman Harley, sheriff of London, and one of the city members. The officers who assembled at the Royal Exchange to perform this duty, were assailed by a furious mob, pelted, and grossly insulted ; and the glass of sheriff Harley's chariot was broken by a billet of wood. The pieces of libel which remained, were carried off in triumph to Temple Bar, where a large bonfire was prepared to receive and consume a large Jack-Boot, typically signifying John Earl of Bute.

Mr. Wilkes also made a formal complaint to the house of commons, concerning a breach of their privilege, by the imprisonment of his person, &c. Not being satisfied with this, he commenced an action against Robert Wood, esquire, under secretary of state, for seizing his papers. The cause was tried before lord chief justice Pratt, and a special jury ; when they gave a verdict for the plaintiff with one thousand pounds damages and full costs of suit.

* The judgment of lord chief justice Pratt was delivered in the following remarkable words : " If a general warrant be good, a secretary of state can delegate and depute any of his messengers, or any even from the lowest of the people, to take examinations, to commit or release, and, in fine, to do every act which the highest judicial officers of the law knows, can do, or order. There is no authority in our law books that mentions these kinds of warrants, but in express terms condemns them. Upon the maturest consideration, I am bold to say this warrant is illegal ; but I am far from wishing a matter of this consequence should rest solely on my opinion. It may be referred to the twelve judges, and there is a still higher court, before which it may be canvassed, and whose determination is final. If these superior jurisdictions should declare my opinion erroneous, I submit as will become me, and kiss the rod ; but I must say, I shall always consider it as a rod of iron for the chastisement of the people of Great Britain."

That friend of his country, that luminary of patriotism Mr. Pitt, had lately resigned his station as premier ; this was deemed necessary by those who were promoters of the peace, which was equally obnoxious to him and to the country. The citizens in particular had not been in good humour ever since his resignation, and the peace was far from reconciling them to the measures of his successors in power. When, therefore, it was proposed to address his majesty on that occasion, the court of common council could not be prevailed on to comply with the usual formality. An address, indeed, was obtained in the name of the lord mayor and court of aldermen, and presented on the 12th of May ; but never was there a city cavalcade more insignificant or treated with more general contempt. The lord mayor, Mr. Beckford, pleaded indisposition ; but Sir Charles Asgill supplied his place as *locum tenens*, and was attended by only six aldermen, the sheriffs, town clerk, and recorder. The populace saluted the procession with hisses and other marks of contempt : as they passed Fleet Street, the great bell of Saint Bride's church tolled as if for a funeral, and then a dumb peal was rung for a considerable time. The bells at Bow Church also paid them the same compliment on their return ; and the populace testified their resentment by other distinguished indignities.

On the sixteenth of August, her majesty was delivered of a second son, who was baptized Frederick, and is now Duke of York and Albany.

The effects of party had no weight upon the city with respect to the due loyalty they owed their sovereign. The pedestrian statue of his majesty, which had formerly been voted to be placed in the Royal Exchange, was completed by Joseph Wilton, esquire, and fixed in its proper station, on the 24th of February, 1764 *.

It

* Many ludicrous strictures were passed upon the merits of the above statue ; but the most entertaining was published in a diurnal journal of this period, which for its witticism, is subjoined :

“ The scaffold which has been erected for fixing the king's statue in the Royal Exchange, being struck, I had the curiosity to go and view it ;

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and

It was at this time become an object of great consideration, to rebuild the gaol of Newgate. The confined situation and unhealthy state of the building, which then was situated

and a great number of people I found assembled there on the same occasion, whose opinions concerning it were as various as their physiognomies; and to express them so naturally as they were delivered, would be an arduous task, if not an impossibility; however, some of them were so peculiar, that I cannot forbear mentioning them. Some condemned it totally, others partially. The first would assign no reason, or give a why or wherefore, other than that they did not like it: some began their criticism at the head, foot, or other part, and proceeded to every member. "The king," quoth one, "is an upright man, and should not have round shoulders, or stoop like the statue." "Poh! you fool," says another, "don't you see the architect's intent by that attitude? He looks towards the north, with open arms, bestowing favours on the gentry in the Scotch walk." Says a third, "would you have him turn his posteriors on his ancestors, and pay his respects to his neighbour leg on his left hand?" "I think he should have been gilt," says a fat fish-woman, who stood not far from me; "God forbid," says an old gentleman of seventy, near to her. "He has a lady's arm," says a country farmer, "with a wooden trundle in his left hand, such as we stir hasty pudding with in the country." "How comes it," says his companion, "that he is dressed in the Scotch taste, without breeches, short stockings, and plaid hanging loose over his shoulders, with a broad-sword hanging loose at his side? it is plain to me, he will become a rank Jacobite in time, Lord have mercy upon us, poor Protestants!"

"These idle and groundless observations and remarks proceeded from some in a very natural manner: from others, through prejudice, party, or passion, and I introduce them by way of specimen only; and, considering the liberty which the subjects of this country are contending for, it is but in a small degree or latitude of licentiousness: but what appeared most astonishing was, the construction of the initial letters of the inscription, or rather superscription underneath the statue, viz. S. P. Q. L. not one out of three hundred present, could decypher it, (if I may be allowed the expression,) at length a person in black attempted it thus: *Populus Sctorum Queritur Londino*: that is, says he, *The Scotch shall Reign in London*. This ridiculous and unwarrantable construction irritated me not a little; upon which I drew him by the sleeve, and pointed to the same superscription under several other statues in the Change, to convince him that he was wrong in his application, and his construction was a partial one, and that those letters were an imitation of the Roman S. P. Q. R. or *Senatus Populusque Romanus*, and S. P. Q. L. intimated, that

situated across Newgate Street, rendered a removal highly necessary. At a common council, therefore, held on Tuesday, the twenty-eighth of the same month, a committee was appointed to consider of a proper place whereon to build a new gaol; who reported, "that the most convenient place would be near that whereon Newgate stood; and the court agreeing with the committee, directed them to draw up a petition to parliament for that purpose." The committee recommended that the new gaol should be erected from the corner of the Old Bailey to the Sessions House; and that a third part of the expence should be paid by the city, the rest by the county of Middlesex.

Among the statutes which passed during the session of parliament this year, were two for the more peculiar benefit of the city. The first was paving, cleansing, &c.: the other, from its import, deserves particular notice. The

the statue was erected by the legislature and citizens of London, which no body attempted to deny.

"This ecllarissement, in a very little time, was the occasion of my being surrounded by a number of people, demanding my opinion in general of the statue of his present majesty.

"I told them, that I thought it would have been better, if it had been done similar to the rest, in free-stone, and gilt in a ginger-bread like manner; and if the expression had been in the Harlequin or Quixote taste, of James or George the First, it would have been more suitable to the place and intent: that the present statue was more fit for a monument in Westminster Abbey, being aptly and highly finished: that his being in a Roman military habit, and having a truncheon in his hand, was not intended to denote its original as a warrior, or the position of the right hand to express any partiality. Both, on the contrary, indicate, that he as the fountain or source of peace or war, is ready to scourge his enemies by his soldiers and sailors, whenever there is occasion, but that his greatest bliss is the happiness of his people, which is well adapted and expressed by the fatherly and lowly attitude and expression of a reclined head, and a circling arm to all his subjects in general, instead of standing on tip-toe with a stiff neck, insolent and haughty air of a tyrant. This is my confirmed opinion of the statuary's intent; if I am mistaken, the good natured and sensible, I hope will excuse me."

frequent dreadful fires * which had happened in the course of the two preceding years, having excited the serious attention of the legislature ; this induced them to pass the act “ for the better regulating of buildings, and to prevent mischiefs that may happen by fire within the weekly bills of mortality,” &c. by which so much of the act of 2 George I. for regulating buildings, &c. as relates to party-walls, shall extend to all cases whatsoever within the city and liberty of Westminster, and within the parishes of St. Mary-le-Bone and Paddington, and Chelsea and St. Pancras, where it shall be necessary to pull down and rebuild any party-wall, whether either of the adjoining houses shall or shall not be, or require to be rebuilt, or new built ; except the city of London and liberties thereof, and party-walls of houses on the river Thames below bridge. It then directs a survey of the said walls, and that upon a disagreement of the surveyors it shall be lawful for two neighbouring justices of the peace to add another to them: and that the said wall viewed by them may be pulled down and rebuilt, if the majority signs a certificate of such wall being defective.

* One instance of this kind, was dreadfully calamitous. On the 6th of May, 1763, a dreadful fire broke out at the house of lady Molesworth, in Upper Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, which in a short time entirely consumed the building, with all its furniture. Lady Molesworth, her brother captain Usher, her second and third daughters, and four or five servants, perished in the flames. The eldest daughter threw herself out of the window, and broke her leg. The fourth and fifth daughters also jumped out of a garret window, when the former broke her thigh, and the latter was greatly bruised. Dr. Coote Molesworth with his lady, who were on a visit, narrowly escaped with their lives. The doctor's lady threw herself from a two pair of stairs window into the garden, and the Doctor hung by his hand at the window till a ladder was brought to his assistance. An elderly woman, governess of the children, threw herself out of the window, and was killed on the spot. One of the footmen, in jumping from a window, fell upon the iron spikes, where he hung till a chairman, at the hazard of his life, disengaged him ; but he afterwards died of his wound.—It is remarkable that notwithstanding the fire in this house was so fatal to the inhabitants, there was not any other building in the least affected by it.

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The said act then enacts, " That all party-walls to be erected or built within the said city or liberty of Westminster, and the parishes, precincts, and limits aforesaid, shall be two bricks and an half thick at the least in the cellar, and two bricks thick upwards to the garret floor, and from thence one brick and an half thick at least, eighteen inches above the roofs or gutters which adjoin to such party walls; and that the same shall be built of stone, or of good sound burnt bricks, and none other.

" And that no timbers, except the timbers of the girders, binding joists, and the templets under the same, shall be laid into the party-walls erected or built, or to be erected or built, within the said city or liberty of Westminster, and the parishes, precincts, and limits aforesaid; and that no timbers of the roof be laid into such party-walls, (except the purloins or kerb thereof,) and that the ends of girders, and binding joists, lying within such party-walls, shall not exceed nine inches; and that none of the ends of the girders, or binding joists, in adjoining houses, shall meet, or be laid opposite to each other; and that the sides thereof shall be, at least, fourteen inches distant from each other; and that there shall be nine inches, at least, of solid brick-work left at or between the ends of all lentils, wall-plates, and bond-timbers, which may or shall be laid in or upon the walls of the fore and back fronts of all houses which shall adjoin to each other, on the penalty of fifty pounds on the head builder.

" That no timber or timbers whatsoever shall be laid or placed under the hearth or hearths of any room or rooms, or within nine inches of any funnel or flew of any chimney or chimnies, of any house or houses within the limits aforesaid; and that no timber buildings whatsoever shall be built adjoining to any house or houses, so as the timbers thereof shall be let into any wall of any such house or houses already built, or hereafter to be built, within the limits aforesaid, under the penalty of fifty pounds.

" That after any party-wall or party-walls shall be erected or built pursuant to the directions of this act, no person or persons

persons whatsoever, who shall build against such party-wall or party-walls, shall, on any pretence whatsoever, cut into or wound the same, for the convenience of making a chimney or chimnies, or for any other purpose whatsoever; nor shall lay into the same any other timbers than are allowed by this act to be laid into new party-walls, under the penalty of fifty pounds.

“ That every master-builder, who shall erect or build any house within the limits above mentioned, shall, within fourteen days after the same shall be covered in, cause the same to be surveyed by one or more surveyor or surveyors; and such surveyor or surveyors shall make oath, before one of his majesty's justices of the peace for the said county of Middlesex, or city of Westminster that the same hath been (to the best of his or their judgment and belief) built and erected agreeable to the several directions in this act contained; which affidavit shall be filed with the clerk of the peace for the said county of Middlesex, within ten days after the making thereof; and if any master-builder shall make default in the premisses, by neglecting to cause such survey to be made, or such affidavit to be made and filed as aforesaid, such master-builder shall, for every such neglect or default, forfeit the sum of fifty pounds.

“ Provided always, that in all cases where any party-wall within the said city or liberty of Westminster, and the parishes, precincts, and limits aforesaid, shall by virtue of the act of the 11 George I. and of this present act, be pulled down and rebuilt, agreeable to the directions of this present act, by the owner or occupier of one of the adjoining houses, the expence of such party-wall shall be estimated and computed at and after the rate of 6*l.* 10*s.* *per* rod.

“ Provided also, that in all cases where any party-wall shall be erected or built, agreeable to the directions of this present act, in execution of any contract or contracts entered into with the builder or workman before the 1st day July, 1764, the expence of such party-wall shall be estimated and computed at and after the rate of 6*l.* 10*s.* *per* rod; any thing in such contract or contracts to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And be it further enacted, " That for the further and better preventing the spreading of fires, all houses or other buildings, which shall be erected or built within the said city or liberty of Westminster, and the parishes, precincts, and limits aforesaid, shall be built of stone, or of good sound, hard, well-burnt bricks, and none other, both in the fore-front, and back-front thereof, from the breast-summer upwards, (and likewise the party-walls thereof) and that such breast-summer, in all such houses or other buildings, shall not be higher than the floor of the one pair of stairs.

This act concludes with a clause directing, " That in all cases where any of the rewards shall be claimed by virtue of the statute of the 6th of queen Anne, for engines brought to help to extinguish fires, such reward shall be payable and paid in the same manner to the keeper of any other engine, though not a parish engine, who shall bring in such engine in good order and complete, to help and extinguish such fire, in the same manner as if such engine was a parish engine."

On the fourth of May, a cause was tried before chief justice Pratt, at Guildhall, between Arthur Beardmore, esq; an eminent solicitor, and one of the common council of Walbrook ward, plaintiff, and Messrs. Carrington and three other of his majesty's messengers, defendants; for forcibly entering the plaintiff's house, rumaging and taking away many of his papers, and for falsely imprisoning his person six days and an half, in the house of Mr. Blackmore, one of the said messengers. It appeared in the course of the trial, that Mr. Beardmore had been taken into custody on the eleventh of November preceding, for a supposed connexion with the writers and publishers of a political paper called *The Monitor*, and was in confinement till the seventeenth, two days of which he was not suffered the use of either pen, ink, or paper, nor permitted to converse with any of his friends, but in the presence of the messenger; nay, it was mentioned, that when application was made by the then lord mayor of London to bail him, the proper officer who was to examine him, neglected it, on this consistent and reasonable account, that *The Monitors* were much too voluminous to be inspected.

Mr.

Mr. Jonathan Scott, the former publisher of *The Monitor*, in order to prove the justice of Mr. Beardmore's commitment, presented a paper to the court, setting forth, that this gentleman, together with the Rev. Mr. Entick, Dr. Shebbear, and others, were the authors; that the two latter had a salary of 100*l.* a year for their writings; and that he himself (Mr. Scott) was allowed the profits of the sale for his trouble, after the necessary expences attending the publication were discharged.

Such being the ground-work of the charge and defence, the examination of witnesses, and the pleadings on both sides, continued till about a quarter after four in the afternoon, when it appearing incontestibly evident, that Mr. Beardmore had suffered very considerably, in being confined for so long a space at the beginning of term, when he had a number of important causes to conduct; and his principal clerk, who transacted the business in his absence, being also taken by the same warrant with himself, and in the custody of another messenger; the lord chief justice proceeded with his usual candour, to give the charge, in which he observed, "that the seizure of Mr. Beardmore's person and papers was illegal; and that the secretaries of state should always be particularly careful to hear with their ears open, and to see with their own eyes: he recommended moderation, however, in the damages, as the messengers were only servants, and, consequently, could not be considered as intentionally culpable."

The jury then withdrew, and returned in about fifty minutes, with a verdict of 1,000*l.* in favour of Mr. Beardmore, highly to the satisfaction of the court, and the wishes of the auditors, who testified their approbation by the loudest bursts of applause. It is proper to add, that the counsel for the plaintiff were the Recorder of London, Mr. serjeant Glynn, Mr. Dunning, Mr. Stow, and Mr. Gardner: for the defendants, the attorney and solicitor-general, serjeant Nares, serjeant Davy, and Mr. Wallis.

The consequence of this decision was, that on the 21st of June, a writ of inquiry of damages was executed at Guildhall, wherein Messrs. Wilson and Till, eminent booksellers
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in Paternoster Row, were plaintiffs, and three of his majesty's messengers, defendants, in an action of trespass, for entering the plaintiffs house, and seizing their papers, &c. After many learned arguments by the counsel on both sides, the jury, to compose which, one person was summoned out of each ward of the city, withdrew, and in about twenty minutes returned, and brought in the damages at 600*l*. Mr. Dunning was counsel, and Mr. Beardmore attorney for the plaintiffs; Mr. Wallace counsel, and Mr Barnes attorney, for the defendants. On the 25th, fourteen journey-men printers, who some time before had obtained a verdict against the king's messengers, for false imprisonment, received the amount of their damages in the following proportions: thus thirteen who had 200*l*. costs and damages, received 120*l*. each; and one, who had 300*l*. decreed him, received 170*l*. money was also awarded them to pay their attornies.

The improvements of the city rapidly increased; and that convenience as well as elegant embellishment should be adopted, the nobility and gentry at the west end of the town, came to a resolution of affixing the names of several lanes and streets, in conspicuous places, and by putting their titles or names upon their gates or doors: those of New Burlington Street set the example, and affixed their titles or names upon the doors, engraved on a small brass plate. Most of the streets about Hanover Square followed the example, and the mode was afterwards generally adopted, and continues of great utility in this great and extensive metropolis. By these methods, the stranger and foreigner readily finds out the street: and every person of business, the house at which he wants to call.

A violent storm of thunder, lightning and rain happened on the 18th of June, by the violence of which the spire of St. Bride's steeple was so injured, as to require it to be totally rebuilt. This accident induced philosophical enquiry and the use of conductors, as recommended by Dr. Franklin, in order to avoid any future destructive effects of lightning.

An example of British benevolence was evinced in this year, highly honourable to the humanity of the metropolis. A German adventurer of the name of Stumple, having pretended an authority from the British ministry, engaged six hundred Wurtzburgers and Palatines to emigrate their country, under a promise of settling them in the islands of St. John and Le Croix, in America. After they had been shipped for England, Stumple, finding himself unable to fulfil his engagements, abandoned them, and they arrived at the port of London during the month of August, in the most imminent danger of perishing for want. Those who were able to pay their passage were permitted to come on shore, and retired to the fields adjoining to Whitechapel, where they continued some days in the most wretched state, not having the least shelter to preserve them from the inclemency of the weather; while those who remained on board the ship were nearly in as titute a situation.

The only assistance these poor deluded people received for some days, was what could be gathered from the different German churches and chapels about the metropolis; but this was far from being sufficient to relieve so great a number; at length, Mr. Wachsel, minister of the German Lutheran church in Ayliffe Street, Goodman's Fields, laid their case before the public in the news-papers, in so true and affecting a manner, that it immediately attracted the attention not only of the great, but also of royalty itself. Before eleven o'clock on the same day, one hundred tents were sent them from the Tower, by order of his majesty; the passage of those who were detained in the ship was defrayed, and 300*l.* was sent for their immediate support. Subscriptions were opened, and prodigious sums of money gathered for their relief. Physicians, surgeons, and midwives, offered their service for the sick and those in travail, for the latter of whom proper apartments were hired.

Thus happily relieved from the direful distress in which they had been placed, Mr. Wachsel, who, with several other benefactors, had formed themselves into a committee for the management of the subscriptions, waited on the king to
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know his pleasure respecting their future disposal. His majesty communicated his intention of establishing them in South Carolina, ordered one hundred and fifty stands of arms to be delivered to them for their defence, and contracts to be immediately made for proper vessels to convey them to that colony. When every thing was prepared for their embarkation, their camp was broke up, and they went on board singing hymns of thanksgiving in praise of their benefactors, whose beneficence had been so extensive, that the committee were not only enabled to furnish them with every necessary while on board, but even to make some provision for them after their landing in America.

The late father of the city, Sir John Barnard, after having attained to nearly the age of eighty, died on the 29th of this month. He sustained the character of a dutiful son, an affectionate husband, an indulgent master, a generous benefactor, an active magistrate, an intelligent merchant, and an uncorrupt senator; he discharged all the duties of social life with equal honour to himself and advantage to his country. No man lived, who was more universally esteemed; or when dead, was more sincerely regretted.

It was during this year also, that the inhabitants of Saint Andrew's Holborn, came to the laudable resolution of lessening the number of projecting cellar-windows, which abounded in that parish, and had for some time, been productive of many accidents to foot passengers and children.

Among the many new streets which were now building, was one in honour of her present majesty, called Charlotte Street, continued from Rathbone Street or Place, Oxford Road, towards the east end of the Middlesex Hospital, parallel with Tottenham Court Road; and finished with elegant and convenient houses.

Another fine new street was formed on the west side of the Middlesex Hospital, called Suffolk Street, and several others; so that the hospital, which was some years before built in the fields, before two years from this period, stood in the town. This was owing to the long leases, and other encouragements given by his grace the Duke of Portland.

To shew to what an extent the value of land had risen, a small piece of ground in Piccadilly, bought some years before (when a field) for thirty pounds, by a brewer, as a waste place to put his butts, &c. was now sold for the benefit of his son; an orphan, at the sum of 2,500*l*.

The year 1765, commenced with various applications from the city to parliament, among these, two petitions were presented by the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons, in common council assembled: the first, regarding London Bridge, alledged, " That the petitioners had proceeded to execute the powers and trusts given by the several acts of parliament provided for those purposes, with all possible attention to so great a service for the public utility; and that the charges attending the works already performed, and to be performed, amount, by computation, to the sum of 104,686*l*. 12*s*. 7½*d*. and that the petitioners had received, by the produce of tolls, the sum of 4,463*l*. 11*s*. 3½*d*., and by sale of the materials of houses taken down, the sum of 3,719*l*. 12*s*. 1*d*. and by sundry grants from parliament, 71,210*l*. 12*s*. 6*d*. making together 79,395*l*. 15*s*. 10½*d*. exclusive of 6,391*l*. 2*s*. 6*d*. which, upon the fatal burning of the temporary bridge, was conditionally borrowed of the Bridge House; all which said several sums, amount in the whole to 85,786*l*. 18*s*. 4½*d*. and which sum being deducted from the said sum of 104,686*l*. 12*s*. 7½*d*. there appears a deficiency of 18,899*l*. 14*s*. 3½*d*. unprovided for by act of parliament, exclusive of the said money conditionally borrowed of the Bridge House estate; therefore they prayed, that the house would take the premises into consideration, and grant to the petitioners such further sums of money, as would enable them to fulfil the trusts reposed in them by the said acts of parliament, for the benefit of the public." The chancellor of the exchequer, also, acquainted the house, by his majesty's command, " that his majesty, having been informed of the contents of the said petition, recommended it to the consideration of the house."

The second petition, regarding the gaol of Newgate, set forth, " That it is the common gaol for the city of London and the

the county of Middlesex, and that for several years last past, there have been *communibus annis*, near one thousand persons committed to the said gaol; two-thirds of which have been Middlesex prisoners; and that the said gaol is a very antient ill constructed, close, and incommodious building, and in its present state unfit for the reception of prisoners committed there: and that the petitioners are well satisfied, that the present state and condition of the said gaol merits the attention of the legislature; and that on a careful examination and survey, it appears, that the same cannot be rendered healthy and commodious, without being taken down and rebuilt in a more extended plan; and that the petitioners are ready and willing to do every thing towards the promoting a work of such public utility, that on their part can equitably be expected or required; and that the same cannot, as the petitioners are advised, be carried into execution without the aid of parliament, and therefore praying the house to take the premises into their consideration, and to grant such relief therein as to the house shall seem meet." A committee was appointed to consider of this petition.

The solemnity of a state trial took place on the 26th of April, in consequence of a duel between Lord Byron, and Mr. Chaworth, at the Star and Garter tavern, Pall Mall, where the latter was killed. The duel had originated, as such rencontres usually do, from a trifling quarrel concerning "whose estate contained most game!" His lordship was conducted from the Tower to Westminster Hall, where the court had been erected. The number of witnesses on behalf of the crown was so great that they could not be all examined on that day. On the next, the trial was resumed, and the examinations against the prisoner being finished, the solicitor general gave a summary statement of the evidence; after which Lord Byron, who declined examining any witnesses on his own behalf, informed their lordships, "That what he had to offer in his own vindication, he had committed to writing, and begged it might be read by the clerk, fearing his own voice, in his present situation, would not be heard." This request being granted, the clerk, in a very audible

audible manner, read his defence, which contained an exact detail of the particulars relating to the melancholy affair between him and Mr. Chaworth. He said, he declined entering into the circumstances of Mr. Chaworth's behaviour, farther than was necessary for his defence, strongly expressed his sorrow for the event, and reposed himself with the utmost confidence on their lordships justice and humanity; observing that he would with cheerfulness acquiesce in the sentence of the noblest and most equitable court of judicature in the world, whether it were for life or for death. The clerk having concluded, the peers adjourned to their own house; and, after a reasonable time, returned, when they found his lordship guilty of manslaughter: and, as, by an old statute, peers are, in all cases where benefit of clergy is allowed, to be dismissed without burning in the hand, loss of inheritance, or corruption of blood, his lordship was immediately discharged on paying his fees.

The peace which had established harmony abroad, was not productive of happiness at home. Our politic neighbours equally insidious as friends or enemies, found means to introduce, in a contraband manner, their manufactures, into this country, to the great distress of the labouring part of the community, but none felt the evil more poignantly than the silk weavers. The want of work in this profession, by means of these foreign importations, had reduced them and their families to the utmost want and despair; in this predicament, they petitioned every branch of the legislature*; and upon promise of relief, they mostly departed to

* The petition of the journeymen weavers was presented to parliament on the 10th of January, by several thousands of distressed objects, and was as follows:—"Lords and Gentlemen, The humble petition of the journeymen silk-weavers on behalf of themselves, and a great number of people of the same trade, sheweth,—That through the badness of trade, many hundreds of your poor petitioners are actually without work; others dread shortly to undergo the same fate: our wives, sons, and daughters, are mostly without employ, and consequently, many of us are in the utmost poverty and want! It is these thoughts that throw us almost into despair, and induce us to throw ourselves at your feet, humbly

to their habitations: but being spirited again by some who were evil-minded, several parties of the misguided weavers, on the 18th of May, committed violences against the houses of the supposed enemies of their trade, by breaking their windows, &c.

A court of aldermen had however met to consult on proper methods for guarding against any ill consequences from these commotions. A party of guards from the Tower were ordered on duty in Moorfields, where the mob had broke the windows of several masters, who were reported to have been in possession of great quantities of French silks. The guards were continued in Moorfields for some days, and a proclamation was issued for suppressing riots, tumults, and all unlawful assemblies. By these means, together with the prudence of the magistrates, and the assurance of the master weavers, the discontent subsided, and tranquillity was happily restored.

This was a destructive year with respect to fires. The first accident of the kind was on the first of June, which broke out in a mast-yard near Rotherhithe church, and in a few hours destroyed two hundred and six houses, together with a brig and several lighters in the river: the wind carried the flames to a considerable distance, but luckily they were driven from the Thames, otherwise the consequence to the shipping must have been very fatal. The losses occasioned by this fire was computed at 10,000*l*. but the unhappy sufferers, many of whom had not insured their property, were relieved by the munificence of the public, who raised such contributions as greatly exceeded the estimates of the claimants.

humbly begging your assistance in this our most lamentable condition, That your petitioners are of opinion, with humble submission to your much better judgment, that this excessive badness of trade, proceeds chiefly and principally from the increase of the use and wear of all sorts of foreign wrought silks, which are continually imported and smuggled into this metropolis, and other parts of Great Britain. The assistance your humble petitioners pray for, is, that you would, this session of parliament, grant a general prohibition of all foreign wrought silks:—and your petitioners, &c.

The iniquitous practice of false measures had arisen to the highest pitch of enormity; and the spirit of monopoly and oppression was at this time so widely spread, that the very retailers of milk, in and about the metropolis, attempted to raise the price: so that what had till now been bought at one penny per quart, Winchester measure, was raised to two pence halfpenny per wine quart: to prevent as much as possible such shameful proceedings, the magistracy exerted themselves in an effectual manner; and the law having declared by the 11th and 12th of William III. c. 15. sect. 5. "That every mayor or chief officer of every city, town corporate, borough, or market town, shall on request to him made, cause all ale quarts and ale pints made of wood, earth, glass, horn, leather, pewter, or other good and wholesome metal, which shall be brought to him to be measured and sized with the standard in his custody, and shall then cause the same and every of them to be plainly and apparently signed, stamped, and marked W. R. and a crown, for which they shall not receive above one farthing for each measure, on pain of five pounds, to be recovered as aforesaid; and he shall also pay to the party grieved treble damages, with costs, by action at law." The lord mayor, in pursuance of this law, summoned the publicans, &c. under his jurisdiction, for selling in pots not sealed with the city mark, according to law. On which occasion, they were obliged to pay the penalty of ten shillings each.

On the 2d of July, was tried at Guildhall, before the right honourable Lord Mansfield, a cause wherein Messrs. Carr, Ibbetson and Co. eminent silk mercers on Ludgate Hill, were plaintiffs, against several custom-house officers defendants, for entering and searching the house of the plaintiffs, under pretence of their having a large quantity of prohibited goods in their possession. When it appeared that the officers had not the least foundation for such search; the jury which consisted of merchants, found a verdict against the custom-house officers, for 100*l.* damages, with costs of suit.

The second accident by fire this year, occurred on the 7th of November, about three o'clock in the morning, at the
house

house of Mr. Rutland, a peruke-maker, in Bishopsgate Street, adjoining the corner house in Leadenhall Street. The wind being high, the flames spread to the corner house, and thence to the opposite side; for want of water and proper assistance, the flames soon communicated to the opposite corners, so that the four corner houses were all on fire at the same time. The house which formed the corner of Gracechurch Street and Cornhill was only damaged, but the other three were all destroyed; as were also all the houses from the corner of Cornhill next Bishopsgate Street, to the church of Saint Martin Outwich, at the corner of Threadneedle Street. The church and parsonage house were greatly damaged. The back parts of several houses in Threadneedle Street, were much injured. All the houses in White Lion Court, were entirely destroyed, among which was the White Lion tavern, that had been bought but the evening before for between two and three thousand pounds. The back part of Merchant Taylors Hall was great damaged. Five houses on the Exchange side of Cornhill were entirely consumed, as were several others in Leadenhall Street. It was supposed that by this accident, near one hundred houses were destroyed or injured, and the loss was computed at 100,000*l*. Several lives were lost, not only by the fire, but by the falling of chimnies and walls. A gentleman who ventured among the ruins next day, thinking that some persons might be still alive under the rubbish, waved his hat to engage the attention of the spectators, and declared that he was sure many were actually under the spot on which he stood. Upon this the fire-men went immediately to work with their pick-axes, and on removing the rubbish, they drew out alive two men, three women, a child about six years old, two cats, and a dog. The following day, as some of the workmen were clearing away the rubbish from the cellar of one of the houses, a stack of chimnies fell suddenly down, by which accident eight persons were killed, and several others had their limbs crushed in a shocking manner.

Many of the sufferers by this fire not being insured, a subscription was opened for their relief, which soon pro-

duced 3,000*l.* one thousand of which was subscribed by his majesty. The Grocers and Ironmongers company each subscribed 100*l.* and the lord mayor 50*l.* a part of which was distributed among the unfortunate widows and children of the men who were killed by the falling of the stack of chimnies.

An association of painters, sculptors, architects, and engravers, (emulated by the assiduous attention paid by the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, to schemes of utility,) obtained a charter of incorporation this year, by the name of "The Society of Artists of Great Britain;" to consist of a president, vice-president, directors, and fellows, with a common seal, and other powers, within the city of London, and ten miles thereof.

The royal family at this period sustained the melancholy loss of his royal highness William Duke of Cumberland, his majesty's uncle, and his youngest brother Prince Frederick William, aged sixteen years, who both departed this life within the space of two months.

Among the last transactions recorded in the year 1765, is that concerning the mode of new paving, and other regulations respecting the further improvement of the metropolis; and having been referred to the commissioners of sewers and pavements to consider of the most effectual way to correct the complaints of bad pavements, and other nuisances within the limits of the city jurisdiction, they made a representation of what they had considered, in the manner and form following:

" To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

" The humble representation of the commissioners of the sewers and pavements within the said city and liberties,

" Sheweth,

" That they the commissioners of sewers having received frequent complaints of bad pavements and other nuisances
within

within the limits of our jurisdiction, and having found our repeated endeavours to correct the same ineffectual, we think it incumbent on us to represent to this honourable court,

“ 1. That the pavements are in general rough and irregular, and in many of the principal streets very defective and bad, chiefly owing, as we conceive, to their being partially, and at different times, and with different materials, repaired by the several inhabitants themselves, to the frequent breaches made therein by the different water companies, and to their slight and insufficient manner of patching up the same.

“ 2. That the prevailing method of placing the channels in the middle of the streets, which are generally made very deep, and in many cases (sometimes necessarily) attended with cross channels, renders the coach-way very disagreeable and unsafe to passengers, as well as highly detrimental to horses and carriages.

“ 3. That the too common practice of the lower sort of inhabitants and servants, throwing ashes, rubbish, broken glass, and earthen ware, offals, and other offensive things, into the streets, stops the current of the channel, makes the highway very inconvenient, and sometimes dangerous to each horse and foot passenger, and even to the health of the neighbouring inhabitants.

“ 4. That the passage of some of the greatest thoroughfares is often obstructed by the loading and unloading of stage coaches, stage waggon, and country carts, and by the washing of butts, casks, and barrels, in the highway.

“ 5. That the footways by not being raised above the level of the streets, are much annoyed with mud, and frequently overflowed with water, which renders them disagreeable and slippery, are moist and very dangerous in frosty weather; a nuisance every day accumulated by the neglect of the householders to cause their servants to scrape and sweep away the mud from before their houses.

“ 6. That posts intended for the security of passengers, do but in part answer that intention, considerably lessen the passage on both sides, in streets already too narrow, and by

their irregularity and aptness of decay, offend the eye, at the same time that they occasion an expence which might be entirely saved by raising the footway a little higher.

“ 7. That several of the foot ways are encumbered with goods and packages, and others of them straightened by the unwarrantable projection of shop windows, bulks, and shew boards, or the more dangerous encroachments of vaults and cellar doors.

“ 8. That the daily increasing rivalship in the size and projection of signs in a great measure defeats the purpose of them, obstructs the free circulation of the air (so desirable in a large and populous city) in times of high wind often proves dangerous ; and in rain, always an annoyance to foot passengers ; and at night, more or less intercepts the light of the lamps.

“ 9. That foot passengers are likewise greatly annoyed in rainy weather, by the water conveyed from the tops of old houses through spouts projecting into the streets.

“ 10. That for want of the streets and courts being properly marked and distinguished, and the houses regularly numbered, strangers are often put to great trouble and difficulty to find their way to places and persons they have occasion to resort to.

“ From this view of the many nuisances and defects which lessen the beauty, neatness, and convenience of this great and famous metropolis, we humbly conceive that every person (not bigotted to ancient forms and customs, or biassed by narrow considerations of immediate interest) must be convinced of the necessity of a speedy reformation, without which the little of our retail trade that remains will be in time totally lost, our wards and parishes depopulated, and the burthen of our offices and taxes proportionably increased.

“ To obviate the objection which, in the minds of some, may arise from a dread of the expence attending the proposed regulations, and which can only be defrayed by a new tax, we beg leave humbly to offer it as our opinion, that a very moderate tax, little exceeding the average of the
the

the present ordinary repairs, might, by borrowing a sum of money upon the credit of it, be sufficient to answer the expence, not only of the first outset, but of all necessary reparations for many years to come; that the difference (if any) would be more than amply compensated by the preservation, not to say recovery, of our retail trade; and that every ground of complaint of oppression or partiality might be effectually removed, if the proposed reformation was limited to streets, the major part of whose inhabitants should apply for and request it.

“ To enable ourselves to form this conjecture, as well as others to judge of its probability, we have enquired the prices contracted for by the commissioners for the new pavement at Westminster, have caused the streets from Temple Bar to Aldgate church to be surveyed and measured, and different estimates to be made of the proposed improvements within that distance (copies of which estimates are set forth in the margin *) and have had returns made

* *The ESTIMATES referred to by the annexed Representation :*

An ESTIMATE of the Expence of altering all the Paving from Temple Bar, proceeding Eastward up Fleet Street, Ludgate Hill, Ludgate Street, all round the south Side of St. Paul's, along Cheapside, the Poultry, Cornhill, Leadenhall Street, and home to Aldgate Church.

	£.	s.	d.
16,461 feet running of Moor stone curb, at 2s. 9d.			
per foot - - - - -	2,263	7	9
115,414 feet superficial of squaring and laying of old and new Purbeck paving in the foot-way, at 1½d. per foot	721	8	0
77,200 feet superficial of new Purbeck paving, at 7½d. per foot - - - - -	2,444	19	6
32,428 yards of paving with Scotch stones in the coach-way, at 7s. 8d. per yard - - - - -	12,430	14	8
For digging and removing rubbish, being 32,428 yards superficial, at 4d. per yard - - - - -	540	9	4
For removing posts and levelling ground, being 16,461 feet running, at 3d. per foot - - - - -	205	15	3
For fitting curbs round areas and windows, altering water-spouts, iron grates, &c. being 16,461 feet running, at 10d. per foot - - - - -	685	17	6
	19,292	12	0

made to us of the number and rents of the front houses; on all which data we have formed the following computation:

“ A tax of twelve pence in the pound upon £. s. d.
the rents of the front houses, which we find to
amount to the sum of 47,800*l.* and upwards,
would raise the yearly sum of . - - 2390 0 0

“ And, as it seems reasonable that the
neighbouring inhabitants, whose houses do not
front the high streets, ought to contribute to-
wards the expence of improvements of which
they will equally enjoy the benefit, we think
the proposed tax should extend to all houses in
the adjoining yards, courts, and alleys, but
with a power of mitigation in favour of the
inferior and poorer sort of householders; which
discretionary tax we estimate at the yearly
sum of - - - 150 0 0

Total of the tax *per annum* - 2540 0 0

	£.	s.	d.
Brought over -	19,292	12	0
Deduct for 32,428 yards of old pebbles, at 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>			
per yard - - -	2,432	2	0
	16,860	10	0

An ESTIMATE of the Expence of re-laying the old Guernsey Pebbles, and using Purbeck Step for the Curb, throughout all the aforesaid Streets, from Temple Bar to Aldgate Church, as follows, viz.

16,461 feet run of Purbeck step for the curb, at 1 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>			
per foot - - -	1,508	18	6
Purbeck paving in the foot-way - - -	3,166	7	6
32,428 yards of old pebbles in the coach-way relayed, including digging, levelling, and removing rubbish, at 9 <i>d.</i>			
per yard - - -	1,216	1	0
3,243 tons of new pebbles, at 20 <i>s.</i> per ton - - -	3,243	0	0
3,243 loads of gravel, at 3 <i>s.</i> per load - - -	486	9	0
Fitting curbs round areas, &c. being 16,461 feet run- ning, at 10 <i>d.</i> per foot - - -	685	17	6
Removing posts, &c. being 16,461 feet, at 3 <i>d.</i> per foot	205	15	3
	10,512	8	9

Oct. 11, 1765.

GEORGE DANCE.
On

On the other hand, the interest of 17000 <i>l.</i>	£.	s.	d.
(which is more than the larger estimate requires) at 4 <i>l. per cent.</i> would amount to the			
yearly sum of - - -	680	0	0
We estimate the future annual repairs at	400	0	0
And the proportionable share of the additional salaries of offices, surveyors, &c. at	200	0	0

Total of the annual charge - 1280 0 0

“ Which total charge being deducted from the amount of the tax, will leave a surplus of 1260*l. per annum*, applicable to a gradual discharge of the principal money borrowed, which it would compleat in about eleven years; and, if parliament (who have been so liberal in their encouragement to the improvements at Westminster) should be prevailed on to grant us the benefit of a Sunday’s toll, the whole debt might be paid off, and the tax reduced, in a much shorter time.

“ It remains only to be considered what further powers will be requisite for the execution of the plan in question, in case it should meet with the approbation of this honourable court; for which purpose we humbly conceive that we cannot better inform or direct their judgment than by a faithful enumeration of the many defects we have experienced in the exercise of our present authority: we therefore beg leave to represent,

“ 1. That, whatever might have been the original intention and legal construction of our authority as to pavements, at the time of its creation, we are advised, that the constant and uniform method in which it has been exercised for near a century, as well as the implied interpretation of it by some late statutes, restrain it wholly to the ordering, designing, and regulating, the manner of the paving; so that (except in two cases, viz. that of untenanted houses, or where a defect complained of continues unreformed) we have no power to interfere with the paving itself, or (the former of those cases only excepted) to assess or levy any tax for the doing of it.

“ 2. That

“ 2. That we have no authority to try or punish even the most petty offenders in a summary way; the paviors and rakers, who are by law enjoined to obey our orders, and who we may fine for disobedience, having it in their election whether they will submit to such fine or not; so that, in fact, we have no other way to enforce our orders, or to remove nuisances of any kind, but by indictment at the sessions, which, as it generally proves a very tedious and expensive (and sometimes a fruitless remedy,) without any fund appropriated to support the charge of it, is seldom pursued.

“ 3. That we have no particular controul over the water companies, to compel them to repair, in a proper and sufficient manner, or within a reasonable time, the several breaches which their workmen are daily making in the pavement of some or other of our most frequented streets.

“ 4. That we have no authority to pull up or remove any posts, though found to be ever so inconvenient to the public.

“ 5. That we have no kind of jurisdiction over signs, nor authority to fix any marks to houses, whereby to distinguish them or the streets they stand in.

“ Having presumed to trouble this honourable court with our sentiments upon a subject with which the duty of our office seems in some sort connected, and in which the honour of this city, and the interest of its inhabitants, appears to us to be greatly concerned, we humbly submit it to their superior wisdom, how far they will think proper to adopt a plan so successfully pursued in the city of Westminster, and what measures it may be expedient to take for carrying the same into execution. Dated at Guildhall, the 15th day of November 1765.

By order of Court,

JOHN SMITH,

Clerk to the Commissioners.”

An act also passed “ for empowering the commissioners for putting in execution the several acts passed for paving, cleansing, and lighting the squares, streets and lanes within the

the city and liberty of Westminster, and parts adjacent ; to collect certain tolls on Sundays upon the several roads therein mentioned, and apply the same for the purposes of the said acts." Of which the following is an abstract :

Part of the preamble mentions, " That great progress has been made in executing and performing the several powers and authorities contained in the acts already passed for the purposes mentioned in the title ; but that for want of a sufficient fund the same cannot be completed." To the end, therefore, that so useful an undertaking may be effectually carried into execution, it is enacted, " That upon and after the first Sunday after the passing of this act, a street toll be paid at the several turnpikes here mentioned, before any cattle or carriage shall be permitted to pass on a Sunday.

These turnpikes are the nearest to Westminster Bridge, in the county of Surrey ; that nearest St. James's Park, at Pimlico ; any turnpike at Kensington, nearest the entrance into Hyde Park ; the turnpike nearest to Hyde Park Corner ; the several turnpikes at Tyburn ; the several turnpikes at or near the village of St. Mary la Bonne ; at or near the end of Portland Street ; at or near the public house on the New Road leading from Paddington to Islington, known by the sign of the Green Man ; and upon the said New Road nearest to, and to the eastward of Tottenham Court ; the turnpike at Tottenham Court, belonging to the northern road ; and the turnpike or turnpikes nearest the north end of Gray's Inn Lane.

The tolls to be paid at the above specified turnpikes are,

" For every coach, chariot, berlin, chaise, chair, calash, or other carriage, drawn by six or more horses, the sum of 10*d*.

For every coach, &c. drawn by four horses, the sum of 8*d*.

For every coach, &c. drawn by three or two horses, the sum of 6*d*.

And for every chaise, chair, calash, or other carriage, drawn by one horse, the sum of 3*d*.

For every horse, mule, or ass, not drawing, the sum of 1*d*.

The said tolls are to be taken above and exclusive of all other tolls, and are to be levied by distress and sale; and the distress may be sold after four days, rendering to the owner the overplus, after satisfaction of the said toll, and the reasonable charges in and about making such distress, keeping, and sale, shall be fully paid and satisfied.

None are liable to pay the said street toll more than once for passing or repassing, at any time on the same Sunday, with the same cattle and carriage, upon producing a note or ticket, denoting the payment of such toll.

The penalty on forcibly passing through the gates, whereat any toll is by virtue of this act to be paid, without paying such toll, or producing a ticket as aforesaid, or knowingly assaulting or obstructing any of the collectors employed in receiving the said tolls, or foregoing, counterfeiting, or altering any tickets, with an intent to avoid the payment of any of the said tolls, is 40*s*. for every such offence, over and besides such damages and punishments as the party or parties shall be liable to by law.

This act is to continue in force during the term of twenty-one years, and from thence to the end of the next session of parliament."

During the month of December, the corporation had presented the freedom of the city to his serene highness the hereditary Prince of Brunswick, on his marriage with Princess Augusta, his majesty's eldest sister. A circumstance took place which must not be omitted. After the freedom had been presented, Colonel Boyd, one of the prince's attendants, politely observed to the lord mayor and the gentlemen of the committee, "That they had done more than the whole French army were ever capable of performing;—*for they had made his highness change countenance!*"

A cause of importance to publicans was discussed in April, and a species of oppression overturned, highly to the credit of the magistracy; upon an appeal, which was heard before the lord mayor, &c. at a quarter session of the peace at Guildhall,

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Guildhall, relating to the licence of a public house in Aldersgate ward, and which was endeavoured to be taken away "upon account of the publican going into another house, although it appeared he was by his landlord turned out of his former, for refusing to take his beer of the said landlord." But after hearing counsel on both sides, the court, as the man was proved to bear a good character, were pleased to continue his licence. It having been remarked by an upright, judicious magistrate, "that a licence was to be understood as granted to the man, and not confined to the house; and as every publican had an inherent birth-right to purchase his beer where he could be best served, no brewer could reasonably expect any person's licence would be refused for such motives as were endeavoured in the above case to be urged." By this humane determination the brewers are not to consider the publicans obliged to deal solely with them, whenever they unfortunately become their tenants.

A great convenience was produced by a bill which passed on the 11th of April, by which another communication was opened with Middlesex and Surrey, by means of a bridge from Chelsea to Battersea.

But the interior improvement of the city was still pursued with vigour; and in May was passed "An act for the better paving, cleansing, and enlightening the city of London, and the liberties thereof; and for preventing obstructions and annoyances within the same, and for other purposes therein mentioned."

The preamble to this act, besides reciting the acts of the 22d and 23d Car. II. William and Mary, 10 George II. 33 George II. and 17 George II. for the purposes mentioned in the title, sets forth, "That the several streets, lanes, squares, yards, courts, alleys, passages, and places, within the city of London and liberties thereof, being in general ill paved and cleansed, and not duly enlightened; and being also greatly obstructed by posts, and annoyed by signs, spouts, and gutters, projecting into and over the same; whereby, and by sundry other incroachments and annoy-

ances, they are rendered incommodious, and, in some parts, dangerous, not only to the inhabitants, but to all others passing through the same, or resorting thereto. It is therefore hereby enacted, "That, from and after the passing of this act, the sole power and authority of pitching, paving, cleansing, and enlightening the streets, &c. is vested in the mayor and commonalty of London, to be executed by such persons as they, in common council assembled, shall appoint to be commissioners of the sewers, which commissioners of the sewers shall be constituted commissioners for carrying this act into execution."

After reciting several regulations respecting the appointment and meeting of commissioners, &c. the act declares the penalty on exactions of clerks, surveyors, and other officers, and ordains, "That every person so offending shall from thenceforth for ever be incapable of being employed under this act; and shall over and above forfeit and pay the sum of 50*l.* to any who shall sue for the same within six calendar months next after the offence committed.

"The proceedings of the commissioners at their public meetings are to be entered in books signed by their clerks; and such entries are to be deemed the original proceedings of the commissioners, and the books shall and may be produced and read in evidence in all courts whatsoever.

"Non-freemen may be employed in paving, cleansing, &c. any of the streets, &c. and may contract for the performance of the said works, or any of them, as the commissioners shall think fit; and notice is to be given of contracts in some of the daily newspapers, that all persons willing to engage therein may make proposals to the commissioners. No common councilman shall be concerned in any contract.

"The general powers granted to the commissioners are, that they may cause all or any of the streets, lanes, squares, yards, courts, alleys, passages, and places, to be new paved or repaired, when and as often and in such manner and with such materials as they shall think fit; and for such purposes

purposes may from time to time cause to be dug, carted, and carried out of, or brought into the same, or any of them, such gravel, stones, and other materials, as they shall judge necessary; and may likewise cause the ground thereof to be raised or lowered, the course of the channels running in, or through the same, to be turned or altered; and the water pipes which now lie, or which hereafter shall be lain under ground, to be taken up and new lain, in such places, manner and form as they shall judge best; and may cause such posts as they shall think useless, or inconvenient, to be taken up and removed; and likewise all steps, bulks, shew-glasses, and shew-boards incroaching upon the foot way; as also all steps and doors, opening or leading to the foot-ways into vaults or cellars, to be removed or altered.

“ The streets that are to be first paved and enlightened are the great streets from Temple Bar to Whitechapel Bars, and they are to be paved with the stone known by the name of Whyn Quarry stone, or with rock stone, or with the stone of a flat surface. And a passage for carriages is to be opened on the north side of St. Paul's, whilst the south side is repairing.

“ The commissioners are also hereby impowered to have taken down and removed all signs, or other emblems, used to denote the trade, occupation, or calling of any person or persons together, with the sign-posts, sign-irons, pent-houses, shew-boards, spouts, and gutters, and all other incroachments, projections, and annoyance whatsoever, within the said city or liberties; and for the future all signs, &c. are to be fixed on the fronts of the houses, and not otherwise; and every person offending contrary to these directions, for every such offence, is to forfeit and pay the sum of 5*l.* and the further sum of 20*s.* for every day such offence shall continue.

“ Cranes shall be kept close to the walls of warehouses; and, after the 24th of June 1766, no waggon shall, for the purpose of loading and unloading the same, stand in the streets above an hour; nor any cart, waggon, dray, or
other

other carriage, be suffered to stand athwart or across any street, &c. or otherwise, longer than is necessary for the loading or unloading thereof; nor any goods, materials, or things whatsoever, to be laid or placed in any street, &c. so as to obstruct the passage thereof: then and in every such case any one of the commissioners, or officers by them appointed to remove nuisances, may seize the waggon, cart, dray, or other carriage, so placed, together with the horse or horses; or the goods, materials, and things so laid and left, and remove the same to the common pound of the city, commonly called the Greenyard, till claimed by the owner or owners, on payment of the sum of 20s. with the charges of removing and keeping the same; and, in case of non-claiming and payment within the space of three days next after such seizure, it shall be lawful for the commissioners to appraise and sell the same, and the monies arising therefrom are to be applied to the purposes of this act.—This clause extends to seizing, pounding, and selling in like manner, any posts, bars, rails, boards, or other thing, by way of inclosure for the purpose of making mortar, or depositing bricks, lime, or other materials for building or repairing houses, or other works, if suffered to remain any longer time than is necessary. The claiming of them before sold is limited to the space of eight days.

“ No lime is to be slacked in the foot or carriage way of the streets, &c. nor in any house, but only on vacant sites, where any house or houses are totally pulled down in order to be rebuilt, on the penalty of 40s.

“ The penalty of driving any bier, wheel or wheels, sledge, wheel-barrow, or other carriage whatsoever, or wilfully riding, leading, or driving any horse, coach, or any other carriage whatsoever, upon any part of the foot pavements, is 10s. for the first offence, 20s. for the second, and 40s. for the third, and every other time of offending. Any person whatsoever, without any other warrant, who shall see any such offence committed, may seize the offender, and convey him to the custody of a justice of peace, before whom he must be convicted upon oath.

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“ The names of streets, &c. are to be put up, painted, engraved, or described in stone or otherwise, at or near each end, corner, or entrance, of each of the streets, &c. and the houses are to be numbered, in order for the distinguishing them; and the penalty of maliciously defacing or obliterating the same, for every such offence 40s.

“ The form of the new pavement is not to be altered without authority from the commissioners, on the penalty of 5*l.* over and above the expence of relaying and reinstating the same. But the pavements are to be repaired on complaint; and, when water-pipes are broken, and the pavement taken up for repairing them, the ground must be filled up within four days after, upon the penalty of the paviour of the water company to whom the pipes belong, paying 5*l.* or the owner of such pipes, not belonging to any of the water companies, paying 40s. The paviours of the water companies are to give notice of their names, &c. and the water companies are to pay the expence of new laying the pavement, when the pipes are broken, &c. The expence of alterations in the pipes is to be defrayed out of the monies arising or to arise by virtue of this act, and lists of the turncocks are to be delivered to the householders.

“ The commissioners shall have full power to cause the streets to be watered as often as they shall think fit, and to have wells sunk and pumps erected in proper places for that or any other purpose. Likewise dust holes, where the occupiers of houses and tenements are required to have all their dust, ashes, and other filth to be deposited, till the same shall be carried away by the respective rakers or scavengers. The person offending contrary to this clause is to forfeit 10s. for every offence.

“ The foot-ways are to be cleaned daily by the occupiers of houses or tenements, under the penalty of 2s.

“ The commissioners are empowered to direct the setting up of lamps, in such manner, and at such distances, as they shall judge proper, and at what time they are to be lighted, and how long to continue so; and all those who shall wilfully or accidentally break or damage lamps, &c.
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are hereby compelled to make adequate satisfaction. Offenders in the first case may be seized without warrant, and delivered into the custody of a peace officer, in order to be secured, and conveyed before some justice of the peace of the city. The commissioners are also to direct the placing of private lamps.

“ The property of the pavements, &c. is vested in the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of the city of London; and all actions and indictments are to be preferred in their name.

“ From and after the 29th day of September 1766, rates are to be collected half yearly, or oftener, as the commissioners shall think fit to order, and not to exceed 1s. 6d. in the pound in any one year; in the whole of the yearly rents of lands, houses, shops, warehouses, cellars, vaults, or other tenements or hereditaments respectively, as shall be situate in any street, &c. actually begun to be new paved; and 1s. in the pound of the yearly rents of such of the lands, houses, &c. as shall not be so situate. Those lands, houses, &c. are such as are actually rated towards the relief of the poor in the respective parishes; and the owners of the large warehouses, &c. and poor tradesmen, manufacturers, &c. upon petition to the commissioners, are intitled to relief, as they shall think just and reasonable. The parties concerned thinking themselves aggrieved by the award of the commissioners, may appeal to the court of mayor and aldermen, who shall finally determine what relief ought to be granted.

“ The several aldermen of the city, or their respective deputies, are empowered to examine poor-rates, and the land-tax book; duplicates of the rates are to be made out and signed, and collectors are to be chosen annually on the feast day of St. Thomas the Apostle; who are to take and subscribe an oath; or, being Quakers, a solemn affirmation, for the true and faithful execution of the office. 50l. is the penalty on refusing to serve; and, notwithstanding, the party or parties continue liable to be chosen again the year following, or at any other time; and are liable to the

like penalty so often as they refuse or neglect to take, or duly execute the same. In case of death, or such refusal, the alderman of such respective ward may appoint others, under the like penalty ; and the only persons exempted are those who are so by the laws now in being, from serving any ward office.

“ Inmates, or the occupiers of houses, in lodgings or tenement, are to pay the rates, but are to be allowed the same out of their rents by the owners.

“ Public buildings, hospitals excepted, may be rated at 4*d.* per square yard ; and dead walls at 6*d.* per yard, running measure. St. Paul’s church, and yard, are to be rated by the alderman of Castle Baynard ward, or his deputy, at such rate as the major part of his common councilmen shall judge reasonable, not exceeding the rate of 1*s.* 3*d.* in the year for every square yard of the said pavement. Wharfs, warehouses, &c. are not to pay more than two-thirds of the rates herein before directed. The rates on meeting houses are to be paid by those officiating therein ; and of unoccupied houses, &c. by the first tenants or occupiers thereof. Allowance in the rent to be made by the landlords or owners.

“ The collector is to distrain in case of non-payment ; and if distress followed, the warrant is to be backed. The penalty on the neglect of granting or executing such warrants, is 40*s.* Nothing in this act shall be deemed to make void any agreement between landlord and tenant, concerning the paving, cleansing, or enlightening any part of the said streets, &c.

“ Freemen not paying the rates, are incapable of voting ; and persons aggrieved may appeal to the commissioners within thirty days next after such rates shall have been demanded ; and the commissioners are to hear and determine complaints, &c.”

“ The money collected is to be paid into the chamberlain’s office ; and the collector, upon demand, is to give in an account of all monies collected. The penalty or refusal to account, or make payment, is distress and sale of the

collector's goods and chattles, and if none such sufficient to satisfy the said money, can be found with the charges of distress and sale, then the collector may be committed to one of the Compters, there to be detained, till he shall pay the same, or such composition as the commissioners shall agree to accept.

“ The collector dying or becoming bankrupt, his estate is liable to payment ; but if insolvent, the money is to be again assessed.

“ The chamberlain is to pay all sums of money by order of the commissioners, and to make entries.

“ The present contracts for lighting, &c. the streets, are not hereby vacated.

“ The commissioners may borrow money on the credit of the rates, and 100,000*l.* may be borrowed by annuities on lives, at eight pounds *per cent.* to be paid by four equal quarterly payments, during the full term of the natural life of the annuitants, being of the age of forty-five years or upwards. The clerk is to enter all securities. The annuities are not liable to taxes, and the securities are transferable. The money borrowed is charged on the rates, and persons charged towards these rates, are not liable to any former rates, in pursuance of any former acts of parliament towards the paving, cleansing, &c. of the said city and liberties ; but arrears of former rates are still recoverable.

“ The surplus remaining in the chamber of London, under act 17 George II. is to be applied to this act.

“ And to the end and intent that the useful purposes of this act may the better and more speedily be carried into execution, from and after the first Sunday next after the passing of this act, the following tolls are to be taken at the turnpikes at Mile End, Bethnal Green, Hackney, Kingsland, Ball's Pond or Pond Islington, Holloway, end of St. John's Street, end of Goswell Street, and the turnpike on the new road, commonly called the City Road, all which turnpikes are in the county of Middlesex ; viz.

“ For every coach, chariot, berlin, chaise, chair, calash, or other carriage, drawn by six or more horses, the sum of

10*d.* ;

rod.: For ditto, drawn by four horses, the sum of 8*d.*: For ditto, drawn by three or two horses, the sum of 6*d.*: For every chaise, chair, calash, or other carriage, drawn by one horse, the sum of 3*d.*; and for every horse, mule, or ass, not drawing, the sum of 1*d.*

“ The said tolls are to be taken above and exclusive of all other tolls, and to be vested in the mayor, commonalty, and citizens, and disposed of for the purposes of this act. The commissioners on refusal of payment, may levy the same by distress, which may be sold after four days. The commissioners may also erect turnpikes, &c. to be vested in the mayor, &c. Tolls may be collected at the turnpikes already erected, but street tolls are to be paid but once on the same Sunday; and the commissioners may lease, &c. the tolls, and appoint officers who are to account upon oath, and refusing so to do, justices are to inquire into the default, and commit the offenders, until payment or composition be made; but the commissioners are to allow the officers salaries. The penalty on forcibly passing through the gates, &c. and in giving and receiving tickets, &c. to avoid payment of the tolls, is 40*s.* over and besides such damages and punishments the law subjects such offenders to. The tolls may likewise be farmed, and may be assigned for money borrowed: the assignments which are transferrable, to be entered in a book, and all creditors deemed equal in degree.

“ All the monies to be raised, by virtue of this act, are vested in the mayor and commonalty, and to be applied to the purposes of this act, and to no other use or purpose whatsoever. The charges of procuring and passing this act, are to be paid out of the first monies which shall arise by virtue of it; and all writings that relate to the execution of this act, shall not be chargeable with stamps, or any duty whatsoever.

“ The penalties and forfeitures are to be recovered by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, by warrant under the hand and seal of one or more justices of the peace, and after rendering the overplus to the parties, whose goods and chattels shall be so distrained and sold, they

shall be paid to the chamberlain of the said city, and be applied, the one half to the informer, and the other towards the purposes of this act; and in case of sufficient distress not found, the offenders may be committed to prison, for any space of time not exceeding thirty days, nor less than ten days.

“ Proceedings are not to be quashed for want of form, nor removeable by *Certiorari*. No action shall be commenced against persons for any thing done in pursuance of this act, until twenty-one clear days notice shall be thereof given in writing to the commissioners clerk, or after sufficient satisfaction or tender thereof hath been made to the party aggrieved, or after six calendar months next after the fact committed, and the defendant may plead the general issue; and if judgment be given to them, they shall have treble costs.

“ The acts 22 and 23 Charles II. 3 William and Mary, and 10, 17 and 33 George II. are hereby in part repealed.

“ And this act shall be deemed a public act, and taken notice of as such, by all judges, justices, &c. without specially pleading the same.”

Another act was passed at the same time for widening the streets, &c. by which it was ordained that, “ from and after the passing of this act, the court of mayor and aldermen to be holden in the outer chamber of the city, and hereby impowered to do all acts as they might lawfully do by virtue of the said recited act, and this act, and the provisions of the said recited act having been found to be defective, in cases where persons seized and possessed of, or interested, or claiming any interest in lands, tenements, or hereditaments, necessary to be purchased for the purposes of the said act, have not produced and evinced a clear title to their respective interests by them claimed, for remedy in the premises, a jury is to assess the value of the land, &c. and the purchase money being paid into the bank, in the name of the accomptant general, the premises thereupon are to be vested in the mayor, &c. and all claimants, by motion or petition to the court of Chancery, are entitled

to receive their rightful portion of the purchase money in a summary way of proceeding.

“ And whereas the provisions made in and by the said recited act, for preventing the fatal effects of fire, within the city and liberties of London, has not been found sufficient to answer the purposes thereby intended, it is therefore hereby enacted, that all party walls which from and after the expiration of three calendar months next after the passing of this act, shall be erected or built within the said city, or liberties thereof, shall be two bricks and a half thick at least in the cellar story, and two bricks thick upwards to the top above the tiling; and to rise nine inches at least above the tiling of the roof, and that the same shall be built of stone, or of good sound hard well burned bricks, and none other; and also, that from and after the expiration of the said three calendar months, no sort of linthaling, bond timber, or any other timbers whatsoever, except the timbers of the roof, the girders, and templets, not more than three feet in length under the ends of the said girders, the ends of the trimmers, and the ends of the joists shall be laid into the party-walls that may be erected and built within the said city and liberties, and that the ends of girders, ends of trimmers, and the ends of joists, lying within such party-walls, shall not exceed one foot, and that none of the girders, trimmers, or ends of joists in adjoining houses, shall meet or be laid opposite to each other, and that the sides thereof shall be at least nine inches distance from each other, and that in case the ends of joists shall happen to lie in the party-walls, then, instead of timber, linthaling scantlings of Portland stone, nine inches wide, and three inches thick, shall be laid in the party walls, upon which the ends of the joists shall rest; and if any persons shall offend in the premises, they shall forfeit for every such offence, the sum of forty pounds, to be recovered with costs of suit, by any who shall sue for the same; one moiety of such forfeiture, when recovered, to be paid and delivered to the treasurer of Christ Hospital, for the relief of the poor children brought up and maintained in that hospital, and the other moiety to the person who shall sue for the same.”

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On the 12th of May, an act passed for paving, &c. the Borough of Southwark, and parts adjacent. The preamble to this act sets forth, "That the several streets and lanes within the parishes of St. George, St. Saviour, St. Olave, St. John, and St. Thomas, and the parts of the parishes of Saint Mary, Newington, and Saint Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, which are called Blackman Street, Kent Street, Bermondsey Street, and a street called Snow's Fields, all in and near the town and borough of Southwark, in the county of Surrey, being in general very ill paved, cleansed, and not duly lighted and watched, and the present methods prescribed by the law for paving, cleansing, &c. the said streets, &c. being insufficient for those purposes; it is therefore hereby enacted, that the said several streets, &c. included in this act, shall for the purposes of this act be, and the same are hereby divided into two separate and distinct districts or divisions, viz. the parishes of St. George, St. Saviour, St. Mary, Newington, and so much of the high street of the said borough, as is in the parish of St. Olave, shall make one division, and shall be called the west division, and the other parts of the said parish of St. Olave, the parishes of St. John, and St. Thomas, and the parts of the said parish of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, shall be the other division, and be called the east division."

"The knights of the shire, the burgesses to serve in parliament for the borough of Southwark, the treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital in the borough of Southwark, the treasurer of Guy's Hospital within the said borough, the bailiff of the borough of Southwark, and the comptroller of the Bridge Yard, all for the time being, together with several others, inhabitants of the said parishes and places, are the constituted commissioners for putting this act into execution."

"The knights of the shire for the county of Surrey, and the burgesses to serve in parliament for the borough of Southwark, the treasurers of St. Thomas's and Guy's Hospitals, the bailiff of the Borough, and the comptroller of the Bridge Yard, may act upon all occasions in the execution of this act in both divisions.

"No

“ No person is capable, on penalty of fifty shillings, of acting as a commissioner in the execution of this act, unless in his own right, or in right of his wife, he is in the actual possession or receipt of lands, tenements, or hereditaments, of the clear yearly value of 50*l.* or possessed of, or entitled to, a personal estate, in the value of 1,000*l.*

“ The regulations of this act are of a similar nature to those in the act for the city of London, and it need only be observed, that the rate is not to exceed in the whole the sum of two shillings in the pound in any one year; and that the property of the pavements, lamps, iron, timber, furniture, watch houses, turnpikes, toll houses, and of all other materials and things which shall be provided or made use of for the purposes of this act, are vested in the commissioners within their respective divisions for the time being, and they or any five or more of them, are authorized to bring any action in the name of any one or more of them, or to prefer indictments, against any person who shall take, or carry away, any or any part of such materials or things, or disturb them in the possession thereof.”

This act was followed by one beneficial to the county of Essex, by which it was enacted, that the river Chelmer should be navigable from Maldon to Chelmsford.

The year 1766, was not productive of many circumstances more immediately connected with the internal concerns of London. It was, however, a year of interest in the great establishment of the nation; for it was now that the obnoxious American Stamp Act was discussed in parliament. The ultimate consequence was, the loss of the whole American territory, which a few years afterwards declared itself independent of the mother country.

The mismanagement of the persons intrusted with administration, had stimulated disaffection abroad, and induced distress at home. The exceeding high price of provision had urged the poor in several parts of the kingdom to commit riot and depredation; they destroyed the flour mills, seized on the corn and other necessities of life, which they sold at a moderate price, but gave the money to the owners.

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In some places these riots were much more violent; for instead of taking the method to supply their wants, they ripped open the sacks, and scattered the corn; they seized butter, cheese, and bacon in the shops, which they threw into the streets, and committed other outrages of the most inexcusable nature.

To prevent the dreadful consequences likely to ensue from these disorders, a proclamation was published on the 11th of September, for putting in execution the laws against forestalling, regrating, and engrossing of corn. And on the 23d of the same month, two other proclamations were published; by the first of which an embargo was laid on all vessels laden or to be laden with wheat or flour for exportation, till the 14th of November; and the other prohibited the distilling of spirits from wheat.

The attention which the corporation has ever shewn in relieving the necessities of the poor, and in being tenacious of every circumstance relating to their comfort, evinced itself at this period. At a common council held on the 13th of July, the report of Mr. Recorder was read, touching the city of London's right to import four thousand chaldron of coals for the benefit of the city poor; by which opinion it appeared, "That the corporation are, by charter, entitled to that quantity, at one shilling *per* chaldron less duty than is the custom to pay in the port of London *."

On the 5th of October, a tremendous storm, with all the appendages of an earthquake, accompanied by thunder, lightning, and rain, did great mischief in the city: and a

* During the month of August, a cause was heard by the right honourable the Lord Chief Baron, and the other barons of the court of Exchequer, wherein Sir Thomas Kynaston, esquire, the improprator of the rectory and parish of St. Botolph, without Aldgate, was plaintiff, and Mr. Samuel Hawley, an antient inhabitant of a large brewhouse and other buildings, within the Middlesex part of the said parish, was defendant. The plaintiff's bill was brought to compel payment of the sum of three pounds *per annum*, for tythes of the said Brewhouse and buildings. The court decreed the defendant to pay the plaintiff the said three pounds *per annum*, and all arrears thereof, with costs of suit.

fire ball burst in Holborn, with such exhalations of sulphureous particles, as nearly to suffocate the passengers.

The temporary bridge which had been erected at Blackfriars, was opened for foot-passengers on the 19th of November, and the toll taken as levied by act of parliament.—As this bridge entirely ruined the Sunday ferry which had been carried on there by the Watermen's company for charitable purposes, the Bridge Committee (on the 19th of August) agreed to transfer 13,650*l.* consolidated 3 *per cents.* to the rulers of the company, as a recompence for the loss, the interest of which was appropriated to the same uses as the profits that had been received from the ferry.

Towards the end of December, a violent frost began, which continued to increase, and was very severe till the 16th of January following. During its continuance, the distresses of the poor in town and country were truly pitiable. Fuel and other necessities of life, were remarkably dear: the river Thames was frozen so hard, that the navigation was entirely stopped both above and below the bridge: many persons perished in boats and other craft that were jammed in by the ice; and the wherries in the river were wholly unemployed. Many accidents happened in the cities of London and Westminster, and several people perished by the cold in the streets. The severity of the frost was equally felt in the country; many persons were found dead in the snow; the roads were rendered impassable; and it was at the imminent hazard of their lives, that the coachmen and mail drivers performed their journies.

This was followed by a violent hurricane, by which damage was sustained, in the city and its neighbourhood, to the amount of fifty thousand pounds.

Such calamitous circumstances, and the distress they occasioned, again excited the humane interference of the corporation; and at a court of common council held the 23d of January, it was unanimously resolved, “that on account of the distresses of the poor occasioned by the inclemency of the season, 1,000*l.* should be subscribed out of the chamber of London for their relief; and that a subscription book

should be opened in the chamberlain's office for the donations of all well-disposed persons; which money should be appropriated to the relief of such poor within the city and liberties, as did not receive alms of their respective parishes:" and a committee was appointed, consisting of the lord mayor, all the aldermen, and fifty-two commoners, who immediately withdrew and commenced a liberal subscription among themselves, the lord mayor, Sir Robert Kite, subscribing 100*l*. By this timely act of humanity, vast numbers of suffering objects were happily relieved from the most abject state of distress.

By a calculation made about this period, it was found that the number of cattle killed in one year in the metropolis were, sheep and lambs, 711,121; bulls, oxen, and cows, 78,254; calves, 104,760; hogs for pork, 146,932; for bacon, 41,000; sucking pigs, 52,600.

On the 17th of March, the city members, attended by Mr. Dance, the surveyor, waited on the Lords of the Treasury with a plan of the ground near Bishopsgate Street, on which Gresham College stood, for the purpose of pulling down that antient building, and erecting an Excise Office in its stead. At a court of common council held on the 22d of May, it was resolved to agree with the proposal of the government for the purchase. It was also resolved, that the Gresham lectures should be read over the Royal Exchange, and that the lecturers should be allowed a proper consideration for the loss of their apartments, by taking down the old building *. And at another court held on the 23d of June, after

* On the 23d of February, 1768, a petition of the lecturers of Gresham College, was presented to the house of commons, and read: Setting forth, " That by the will of Sir Thomas Gresham, knt. founder of the said college, it was directed that the seven persons, elected and appointed to read the lectures in the said will mentioned, should have the occupation of his mansion-house, gardens, and other appurtenances (now called Gresham College) for them, and every of them there to inhabit, study, and daily to read the said several lectures; and that in and by the said will, it is further directed, that none should be chosen to read any of the said lectures, so long as he should be married, nor be suffered

after a long debate, it was determined to allow the proprietors of the London Bridge water-works a fifth arch of the bridge; but under the express condition, that if the grant should be hereafter found prejudicial to the navigation of the river, the city should have liberty to revoke their grant, on paying the proprietors their whole expence in occupying the said arch.

Captain Wrottesley, arrived in London, on the 27th of September, with the melancholy news, that his royal highness Edward Augustus, Duke of York and Albany, died of a malignant fever at Monaco, in the territory of Genoa. The virtues, the affability, and other amiable qualities of this prince, his majesty's eldest brother, had endeared him to the nation and the city; therefore the account of his death affected all ranks of people with affectionate concern. His

suffered to read any of the said lectures, after he should be married; neither should receive any fee, or stipend, appointed for the reading of the said lectures; and that, as the said college will be pulled down, in pursuance of the bill now depending, and that part of the will of the said Sir Thomas Gresham, by which the occupation of the said college is given to the said lecturers, made null and void; therefore praying the house, that as the collegiate life, intended by Sir Thomas Gresham, will now necessarily be at an end; the restriction contained in the said will, with respect to the marriage of the said lecturers, may also be taken away; and that provision may be made for that purpose, in such manner as to the house shall seem meet."—This petition was referred to the consideration of the committee of the whole house, to whom the bill for pulling down Gresham College was committed; and the committee was empowered "to receive a clause, or clauses, to enable the lecturers of the college to marry, notwithstanding any restriction in the will of Sir Thomas Gresham."

This was followed by an act which passed, "for carrying into execution an agreement, made between the mayor and commonalty, and citizens, of the city of London, and the wardens and commonalty of the mystery of Mercers of the said city, and Stamp Brooksbank, esquire, secretary to the commissioners of his majesty's revenue of excise, for the purchase of Gresham College, and the ground and buildings thereunto belonging; and for vesting the same unalienably in the crown, for the purpose of erecting and building an Excise Office there, and for enabling the lecturers of the said college to marry, notwithstanding any restriction contained in the will of Sir Thomas Gresham, deceased."

remains arrived at London, on the first of November, in the Montreal, and on the third, were deposited in the royal vault in king Henry the Seventh's Chapel, with the usual pomp and solemnity.

The duties of the recorder becoming very extensive and arduous, the court of common council on the 15th of December, voted that an additional salary of 200*l.* should be allowed to him; and at the same time an additional 150*l.* *per* year, was granted to the common serjeant.

The year concluded with the solemnity of filling up the vacant stall of the principal knight companion of the order of the Bath, in the room of his late royal highness the Duke of Cumberland; when prince Frederick, his majesty's second son, (now Duke of York,) was elected. The formalities of this solemnity, will be described in our account of Westminster Abbey.

A severe frost ushered in the year 1768; the lower class of people, as usual, were severe sufferers; and, in addition to their calamity, the price of provision was exorbitantly high. On the 9th of January, the river below bridge, had all the appearance of a general wreck; ships, boats, and small craft, lying in confusion, whilst others were either driven on shore, or sunk in the ice. Near Deptford Creek, a fishing-boat was discovered close choaked in with ice, the people in her frozen to death; and a youth seventeen years of age sat as erect as though he were living.

The many hardships which the public had suffered, induced his majesty's consideration; he issued a proclamation that trade might not suffer, ordering that all mournings for the royal family, which had usually lasted for many months, should be restricted to a shorter time.

Distress, however, occasioned discontent, and hence arose contention. A body of weavers assembled on the 6th of January, in Bishopsgate Street; being well armed, they proceeded to the houses of many journeymen weavers, distinguished by the name of single-handed weavers, and, in resentment for the latter having been concerned in destroying the looms and works of the engine-loom weavers, seized
upon

upon their antagonists, and kept them in custody all night. In the course of a strict examination next morning, it appeared that the engine-loom weavers, who were the complainants, had not only assembled in a riotous manner, and unlawfully detained several persons; but had fired into several houses, and been a terror to that part of the city, as well as disturbers of the public peace; mobs were raised by each party, and the valuable manufacture of weaving was threatened with destruction; but a timely interference of the legislature, re-established harmony among this numerous class of his majesty's subjects.

It should be recollected to the honourable memory of Mr. Harley, the lord mayor, that to alleviate the distresses of the poor, and to reduce the exorbitant price of butcher's meat, he proposed and carried into effect, bounties for bringing mackerel and other fish into Billingsgate market, at cheap rates, which produced the intended benefit.

But unhappily various concurrent adversities continued disaffection and discord. The ministry had been rigid in their proceedings, and the resistance they met, was encouraged and approved. Mr. Wilkes, of whom we have already mentioned, having resided for some years in France, without answering to the legal processes which his enemies had urged against him, was declared an outlaw. But notwithstanding the great persecution he had suffered, he determined to try the strength of his popularity.

The parliament had been dissolved on the 12th of March, and the election for the city of London being appointed on the 16th, Mr. Wilkes suddenly came over, and offered himself a candidate. The other candidates were, the right honourable Thomas Harley, lord mayor, Sir Robert Ladbroke, William Beckford, esquire, Sir Richard Glyn, Barlow Trecothick, esquire, and John Paterson, esquire. The shew of hands was declared in favour of the lord mayor, Ladbroke, Beckford and Trecothick; but a poll being demanded in favour of the other candidates, the books were immediately opened, and continued till the 23d, when the numbers for each appeared as follows:

For

For the Lord Mayor	- - - - -	3,729
Sir Robert Ladbroke	- - - - -	3,678
William Beckford, esquire	- - - - -	3,402
Barlow Trecothick, esquire	- - - - -	2,957
Sir Richard Glyn, bart.	- - - - -	2,823
John Paterson, esquire	- - - - -	1,269
John Wilkes, esquire	- - - - -	1,247

On the determination of the election, Mr. Wilkes returned his thanks to the hall for the suffrages he had received, complained of the exertion of ministerial influence against him, and declared his intention of standing candidate for the county of Middlesex.

The election for Middlesex having been appointed on the 28th, the majority of hands appeared in favour of Sir William Beauchamp Proctor and Mr. Wilkes; but a poll being demanded in favour of Mr. Cooke, a third candidate, it was immediately commenced; and at five in the afternoon, Mr. Wilkes had polled six to one more than that gentleman; at nine o'clock the poll finally closed, and the numbers for each candidate were,

John Wilkes, esquire	- - - - -	1,292
George Cooke, esquire	- - - - -	827
Sir W. B. Proctor, bart	- - - - -	807

The former were consequently declared duly elected.

The mob on each side committed many outrages: in the procession of Mr. Wilkes's opponents, was carried a banner, on which was painted, *No Blasphemer*: this irritated his party, and gave rise to many affrays. At night, the advocates for Mr. Wilkes illuminated their houses, and the mob parading the streets, obliged all those to do the same who chose to prevent the demolition of their windows and houses. The windows of the Mansion House were all broken, as well as a large chandelier and some pier glasses, to the loss of many hundred pounds. The houses of Lord Bute, Lord Egremont, Sir Samson Gideon, and many others belonging to the inhabitants of the most public streets, shared the same fate; and the whole evening presented one continued scene of noise and confusion.

The next morning the guards on duty at St. James's, received orders to be in readiness to march to suppress any riot that might happen : and the following day a court of common council was summoned to consider of the most proper and effectual means to prevent future riots, and to punish those who should be found guilty of the late disturbances. In consequence of which, a reward of fifty pounds was offered for the discovery of every offender, to be paid on conviction ; and it was determined to prosecute them with the utmost vigour. At the same court, it was referred to the Mansion House committee to order the immediate reparation of all such damages done to that building by means of the riots and tumults.

As a counterpoise to these violent proceedings, the city was honoured by the presence of the Prince of Monaco, at whose court the late Duke of York had died. The great civilities and attention which the duke had received from this prince, induced his majesty, in acknowledgment, to invite him to England. During his stay in London, the lord mayor thinking it incumbent on the city to shew their respect also, invited the prince to an entertainment at the Mansion House, On the 18th of April, the prince, with a great number of the nobility, dined with his lordship ; and in the evening the Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland honoured the company with their presence at a ball, which was opened by the Duke of Cumberland and the lady mayoress. The entertainment provided on this occasion was magnificent, and the company in general, particularly the visitor on whose account it was made, expressed the highest satisfaction.

But a most unpopular and shocking transaction now took place. On the tenth of May, the day on which the new parliament was to assemble for the dispatch of business, great numbers of people crowded about the gates of the King's Bench prison; whither Mr. Wilkes had been committed, to suffer two years imprisonment, to pay a fine of one thousand pounds, and to find security for his good behaviour during seven years; the expectation of seeing their favourite go to take his seat in the House of Commons, had drawn
numbers

numbers from affection or curiosity. Having waited a long time in vain, they began to clamour for the prisoner, whom they intended to convey in triumph to the senate. This induced some justices to read the Riot Act. The populace, exasperated at a proceeding not justified by the occasion, as they had committed no violence or outrage, except clamour deserve that appellation, began to shew their resentment by throwing stones and brickbats at the justices as they read the obnoxious act. This assault exasperated in their turn, the soldiers, who happened to be Scotch, and who, on account of the public dissatisfaction to their countryman, the Earl of Bute, felt themselves interested in his favour. Some of these, therefore, singled out a supposed offender, and breaking from their ranks, pursued him a considerable way; but at last missing him, in his stead shot Mr. W. Allen, son of Mr. Allen, master of the Horse Shoe Inn, and Livery Stables, Blackman Street, in his father's cow-house, as he stretched out his innocent hands to implore mercy from his murderers! This atrocious deed alarmed the neighbourhood; which, prompted by curiosity, flocked to enquire into the cause of this barbarous act. Ignorant that the Riot Act had been read, the multitude increased; as every passenger stopped at the sight of such a croud, opposed by a body of horse and foot. The justices now thinking their authority set at nought, ordered the soldiers to fire upon the people, of whom above a score were killed or wounded.

We do not at this distance of time, enter into the necessity for, or the rectitude of such conduct; suffice it to say, that the whole nation was scandalized by the wantonness of the proceeding; more particularly so when the offending soldiers, who were indicted for the murder, escaped justice in an extraordinary manner.

The spirit of riot had certainly assumed great power, and except in the case of Mr. Allen, some sacrifices to legal public justice were necessary; for by this time, the sailors had begun to unrig the ships in the river; the watermen had been very riotous in Greenwich; the sawyers had destroyed great part of an ingenious saw-mill at Limchouse; which
had

had cost Mr. Dingley, the proprietor, 5,000*l.*; the coal-heavers had stopped all coal carts, declaring that they would suffer no coals to be brought into town; the journeymen hatters had struck, and refused to go to work till their wages were raised; and a large mob had assembled before the Mansion House, complaining of the high prices of provision, &c. on which pretext they had broken the lamps before the building, and destroyed the windows; but nothing could sanction or apologize for the illegal tragedy in St. George's Fields*.

* The laudable and humane design of keeping down the price of mackarel, so as to be within the reach of the poor, produced the most beneficial effects. The premiums were extended in the following manner: For every first vessel which arrived at Billingsgate, every market day, twenty-five pounds; second vessel, twenty pounds; and the third vessel fifteen pounds. By these means the finest mackarel were sold under twelve shillings *per* hundred, to the great relief of many distressed families, and to the lasting credit of those who promoted the subscription.

* The title of the Riot Act is, "An act for preventing tumults and riotous assemblies, and for more speedy and effectual punishing the rioters." It is a maxim in civil government, that the law seeks no revenge. The punishments it inflicts, are merely exemplary, and are calculated to prevent the future commission of crimes; not to avenge itself on the criminal for what is past. Public justice is inexorable; but it is never cruel. The ministers of that justice, therefore, abuse it when they arm it with their own passions, and proceed to destroy, when they should only correct. A magistrate, by this act, is not empowered to call in assistance to *disperse*, *seize*, and *apprehend* the rioters; but is *required only* to request and command them to disperse; and if they do not *disperse of their own accord, within the time limited*, he is then *impowered* to call in assistance, [not to disperse, but] to *seize* and *apprehend* them for *not dispersing*. This is the *only mode of action* prescribed by the statute; and therefore the *only legal* means a magistrate *can take* to suppress a riot. He is not *impowered wilfully* to destroy some, in order to *disperse* the rest; but is *expressly directed* to *seize* and *apprehend* as many as do not *voluntarily* disperse when *legally* required and commanded. Such are the clear and express terms of the act.

On the 14th of June, the fine old edifice, called London House, in Aldersgate Street, which had formerly been the town residence of the bishops of London, was destroyed by fire.

The venerable and good Dr. Thomas Secker, archbishop of Canterbury, exchanged this life for a blessed immortality, on the third of August. His grace was a learned and pious prelate. His charity was unbounded, and numerous needy families had great reason to lament the loss of so great a benefactor.

By his will, he left all his optional livings, as they became vacant, to be disposed of by the archbishop of Canterbury, the bishop of London, and the bishop of Winchester, for the time being, in trust for them to give each option to that person, to whom they shall in their consciences think it would have been most reasonable and proper for him to give it, had it fallen in his grace's life-time. He left 13000*l.* in the three *per cent.* annuities, to Dr. Porteus (now bishop of London) and Dr. Stinton, his chaplain, in trust, that they paid the interest thereof to Mrs. Talbot, (daughter of his promoter in life, and grand-daughter of Dr. Talbot, bishop of Durham,) and her daughter, during their joint lives, or the life of the survivor of them, and after the decease of both these ladies, then eleven thousand of the thirteen thousand pounds to be transferred to the following charitable purposes:

To the Society for propagating the Gospel in Foreign	£.
Parts, for the general use of the society	- - - 1,000
To the said Society, towards the establishment of a	
bishop, or bishops in the king's dominions in America	1,000
To the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge	.. 500
To the Irish Protestant working schools	- - - 500
To the Corporation of the Widows and Children of	
the Poor Clergy	- - - - - 500
To the Society of the Swards of the said charity	- 200
To Bromley college, in Kent	- - - - - 500
To the hospitals of the archbishop of Canterbury, at	
Croydon, St. John, at Canterbury, and St. Nicholas,	
Harbledown, 500 <i>l.</i> each	- - - - - 1,500
To	

To St. George's and London hospitals, and the Lying-In hospital, Brownlow Street, 500 <i>l</i> . each	- - - 1,500
To the Asylum, at Lambeth	- - - 400
To the Magdalen hospital, the Lock hospital near Hyde Park Corner, the Small Pox, and Inoculation hospitals, to each of which his grace was a subscriber, 300 <i>l</i> . each	- - - 900
Incurables at St. Luke's hospital	- - - 500
Towards the repairing or rebuilding of houses belonging to poor livings in the diocese of Canterbury	- 2,000
	£. 11,000

His grace left great part of his books to the public library at Lambeth; and among other excellent charities, he was a great promoter of, and benefactor to, the chapel at Stockwell, at which he preached his last sermon. His gift of the communion plate to that place of Divine worship, adds a grateful monument to his memory.

On the 11th of this month, Christian VII. king of Denmark, who had married on November the 8th, 1766, princess Carolina Matilda, his majesty's youngest sister, arrived on a visit to the royal family of England. He was attended by most of his great officers of state, and the utmost respect was paid to him by the British nation. A court of common council was held at Guildhall, on the 16th of September, when it was resolved, "that the right honourable the lord mayor be desired to wait on his majesty the king of Denmark, with the most respective compliments of this court, and to entreat his majesty to allow them the high honour of entertaining him at the Mansion House." His Danish majesty readily accepted the invitation, appointed Friday the 23d for the visit, and intimated his desire of coming to the city by water.

A committee of six aldermen and twelve commoners was then chosen to conduct the entertainment, and empowered to draw on the chamberlain for such monies as might be necessary for the expence. The companies that had barges

were summoned to attend the city barge; all the members of the common council desired to come to the entertainment in their gowns; and each received a ticket for the admission of ladies to the gallery.

On the appointed day, the lord mayor being indisposed, Sir Robert Ladbroke officiated as *locum tenens*. About ten o'clock in the morning, Sir Robert with the aldermen and sheriffs, attended by the city officers proceeded from Guildhall to the Three Cranes, at the bottom of Queen Street, Cheapside, the *locum tenens*, accompanied by deputy John Paterson, (who on this occasion was desired to act as interpreter) and the aldermen and sheriffs in their respective carriages. At eleven o'clock, they embarked on board the city barge, which was elegantly decorated, and supplied with an excellent band of music. The other companies attending also with their barges, the naval procession sailed up the river to the stairs at New Palace Yard, where a detachment of grenadiers belonging to the Artillery Company attended; and when notice was given of his Danish majesty's approach, the *locum tenens*, aldermen and sheriffs, immediately landed to receive and conduct him on board. As soon as he had entered the barge, the music began playing, and several cannon were fired on each side of the river. The Thames was covered with boats, and the different shores were crowded with innumerable spectators.

In order to give the royal visitor a compleat view of London, Westminster, the bridges, and the river, the state barge took a circuit as high as Lambeth, and from thence down as far as the Stillyard; during the course of which the king expressed great satisfaction, and several times came forward to gratify the curiosity of the people. From the Stillyard they returned to the Temple stairs, where the benchers of both societies received the king, conducted him to the Middle Temple Hall, and regaled him and his company with an elegant collation.

His majesty was then conducted to the city state coach, in which he took his seat on the right hand of the *locum tenens*, accompanied by his excellency count Bernsdorff and Mr. De-

puty Paterson, followed by nine noblemen of his majesty's retinue, and by the aldermen and sheriffs in their carriages. In this manner he was conducted to the Mansion House, where he was received by the committee (appointed to manage the entertainment) in their mazarine gowns. He was first introduced to the great parlour, where, after he had rested a few minutes, Mr. Common Serjeant presented him with the compliments of the city. To this the king returned a very polite answer in the Danish language, which, by his permission, was interpreted to the company by Mr. Deputy Paterson, and was as follows :

“ *Gentlemen,*

“ I am highly sensible of the kindness of your expressions to me ; I desire you will accept my best thanks in return, and be fully persuaded that I can never forget the affection which the British nation is pleased to shew me ; and that I shall always be disposed to prove my grateful sense of it to them, and in particular to you, gentlemen, and this great, celebrated, and flourishing city which you govern.”

On notice being given that dinner was served, the king, with the *locum tenens* on his left, was conducted by the committee into the Egyptian Hall. Before he took his seat, he walked round the hall, that the ladies (who made a most brilliant appearance in the galleries) might have a full view of his person ; and all the gentlemen of the common council below, an opportunity of personally paying him their respects.

The king sat on the right hand of the *locum tenens*, at a table placed on an elevation, across the upper end of the hall. On the right hand of the king sat his noble attendants : on the left hand of the *locum tenens* were the aldermen above the chair ; and fronting the king's table was a band of music in an orchestra, that had been erected on the occasion.

During the course of dinner, several appropriate toasts were drank, and proclaimed by sound of trumpet.

The dinner was exceedingly magnificent, at which the king several times expressed the highest satisfaction, as also at the grandeur of the Egyptian Hall, the brilliancy of the illuminations round it, and the excellence of the music.

After

After dinner his majesty was re-conducted into the great parlour, where he was presented with tea and coffee, and entertained with solos on different instruments by several distinguished performers.

About eight o'clock in the evening, the king took leave of the corporation, and returned to St. James's, amid prodigious crouds of people, who testified their satisfaction by continual shouts; and the inhabitants of the principal streets through which he passed shewed their respect by illuminating their houses.

At a court of common council held the 10th of October, the freedom of the city was unanimously voted to the king of Denmark, to be presented in a golden box of two hundred guineas value. His majesty was admitted into the Grocers company, and his freedom being afterwards given to his ambassador here, was by him transmitted to Copenhagen.

On the evening of the when day the above court was held, the king of Denmark, in return for the many civilities he had received during his residence here, gave a grand masquerade ball at the Opera House in the Haymarket, which was magnificently decorated for the purpose. His Danish majesty went in a private manner to the theatre, accompanied only by Count Holke, in his own coach and pair, and afterwards robed himself in masquerade in one of the dressing rooms. The noblemen of the king's retinue soon after followed in chairs, in their masquerade dresses, and the number of nobility and gentry was greater than had ever been known on a like occasion.—In this entertainment the king did not forget the corporation of London: he sent the lord mayor an hundred tickets for the masquerade, forty of which were directed, twenty-six to the aldermen, twelve to the commoners who were of the committee for preparing the entertainment, one to the recorder, and one to the common serjeant: the remainder were entrusted to his lordship's disposal, together with one hundred and fifty tickets for the gallery.

On the 12th of October the king of Denmark took leave of their majesties, and all the royal family; and the next morning set out for Dover to embark for Calais. Before his departure he made a present to the Earl of Hertford and Lord Talbot, who attended him whilst in England, of a ring to be valued at 1500*l*. He left also one thousand guineas each, distributed among the domestics at the king's palace.

The expence of his Danish majesty's table at St. James's was defrayed by the British monarch. Besides inferior ones, there were two principal tables, which were sumptuously provided; and the whole daily cost, exclusive of wines, was estimated at 84*l*.

The circumstance that closed the year 1768 was, the institution of "The Royal Academy of Arts," which was established on the 18th of December, under the king's immediate protection, and under the management of forty artists, distinguished for their several professional abilities.

About the latter end of November, one Simmonds having been convicted before Lord Mansfield, for unlawfully inveigling and decoying men into the service of the East India Company, confining them as prisoners in a lock-up house in Chancery Lane, where they were frequently beat and otherwise cruelly treated, compelled, contrary to their inclinations, to take the usual oaths for such service, and afterwards, by force, put on board vessels in order to be sent abroad, was brought up to the court of King's Bench to receive judgment; when the court ordered him to be confined in the King's Bench prison, for eighteen calendar months, and to find security for his good behaviour during seven years. We mention this circumstance, because, to the honour of the court of aldermen, the prosecution was carried on by their direction.

The aim at illegal power in the ministry on one side, and the intemperate doctrines of opposition on the other, blot the year 1769. The means that were used, the violence committed on the freedom of election in the case of Mr. Wilkes, and the bloody transactions at Brentford, in order to overturn the election of Mr. Serjeant Glyn, are of a complexion

complexion too horrid for recollection here; the arrogance of ministers invaded with impunity the rights of the subject, and denominated those who petitioned for a preservation of their liberties, "scum of the earth." It should ever be considered that the mass of the people, whether distinguished as "low mechanics," "sturdy beggars," or "the scum of the earth;" have displayed their influence on various occasions, and therefore it is never just or politic to treat them with contempt.

Addresses were now contrasted with the various petitions against national grievances; but whilst authority suggested those addresses complaining of sedition, licentiousness, and disaffection, and probably a few hundreds were seduced to sign them, thousands voluntarily set their names to the petitions against the unwise steps of the administration.

On Michaelmas Day, when the election of lord mayor for the ensuing year came on, the gentlemen nominated to fill that office were William Beckford, Esq. who had already served the office in 1763; Barlow Trecothick, Esq. and Sir Henry Banks, Knt. Various disputes, however, arose respecting the eligibility of Mr. Beckford's nomination, on account of his lately having passed through that dignity. The town-clerk and common serjeant objected to it with great warmth, and produced a bye-law of the corporation made in the reign of Henry VI. which imported, "that it was agreed between the aldermen and commonalty, that on account of the heavy burden, the increased expence, and particular circumstances of those times, no person should be re-chosen to serve the office of lord mayor within the term of seven years after his former mayoralty." In reply to this it was observed, that circumstances had occurred since that time to the contrary, and particularly that of Sir John Barnard, who, having served the office of lord mayor in 1737, was re-elected, and served the same office in 1740. This fact being undeniable, the town clerk and common serjeant endeavoured to exculpate themselves from intending any indirect practices in their objections. The common serjeant said, that he had overlooked the election
of

of Sir John Barnard in his searching for precedents, which he accounted for by turning over the records from Michaelmas to Michaelmas; and this election, he said, happened to fall between.

After Mr. Beckford and the several aldermen below the chair had been nominated, the sheriffs declared the shew of hands to be in favour of aldermen Beckford and Trecothick; but a poll being demanded for Sir Henry Banks, the books were immediately opened, and at the close of the poll the numbers appeared as follow:

For William Beckford, Esq.	-	1967
Barlow Trecothick, Esq.	-	1911
Sir Henry Banks	-	676

The two former were of consequence returned to the court of aldermen for their choice. Mr. Beckford earnestly desired his brother aldermen would appoint Mr. Trecothick to the office, saying, his age and infirmities had so impaired his abilities, that he did not think himself capable of going through the duty with that spirit, vigour and dignity it required; adding, that the spirit was indeed strong, but the flesh was weak. His reasonable desire, however, was little attended to, for when the court of aldermen met on the 10th of October, sixteen scratched for Mr. Beckford, and only six for Mr. Trecothick.

On this determination Mr. Beckford again pleaded inability to serve the office, from his great age and infirmities, and wished, as he had before intreated them, that they had chosen Mr. Trecothick; and at the same time declared he must absolutely decline it. This declaration gave universal discontent to the livery, who vehemently persisted in refusing to admit any excuse whatever. And so determined were they to obtain their wishes, that on the thirteenth, a great number of them, attended by the two sheriffs, waited on Mr. Beckford, and in the strongest terms solicited that he would, at that important crisis, serve the office of lord mayor for the year ensuing, to which dignity, he had been a second time elected.

Mr. Beckford could no longer withstand solicitations so urgent, but now yielded to their desires, in the following letter which he intreated them to deliver to the lord mayor.

“ MY LORD MAYOR,

“ I cannot resist the importunate request of my fellow-citizens ; their desires have overcome resolutions that I once thought were fixed and determined.

“ The feeble efforts of a worn out man to serve them can never answer their sanguine expectations.

“ I will do my best, and will sacrifice ease and retirement, the chief comforts of old age, to their wishes ; I will accept the office of lord mayor.

“ I shall hope for the assistance of your lordship, and my brethren of the court of aldermen : the advantage and good effects of their advice were experienced on many occasions in my late mayoralty, by

“ Your lordship’s most obedient,

“ And humble servant,

“ W. BECKFORD.”

In November, within a few days after Mr. Beckford had re-assumed the dignity of lord mayor, the long expected cause between Mr. Wilkes and the Earl of Halifax, came on before Sir John Eardley Wilmot, and a special jury in the court of Common Pleas :—

The court was excessively crowded, Lord Temple and many of the nobility being there, and a vast number of people in the hall, waiting to hear the event of the trial. The Lords Weymouth and Rochford were subpœnaed. As soon as the court was opened, they desired to be dispatched, as it was post-day. On which Serjeant Glynn asked them, if they had the General Warrants in their possession, granted by Lord Halifax, to seize Mr. Wilkes’s papers ? And on their answering in the negative, Serjeant Glynn told them that was all he wanted to know of them, and they retired.

Serjeant Glynn, counsel for the plaintiff, opened the case, and in a very elegant, spirited manner explained the unconstitutional nature of the injury : he said, “ That of all illegal

legal outrages, this was one that required the most redress, as on its establishment the peace, the liberty, and freedom of Englishmen depended:" he observed, "That though the case in point may be thought only to relate to Mr. Wilkes, yet, as a breach of liberty, it respected the Constitution in general, and should be considered as such by every one who was not dead to the welfare and happiness of his country."

He was answered by Mr. Serjeant Whitaker in the course of the trial, who endeavoured to prove, that what the defendant did was not of that unconstitutional nature, as he acted merely officially; this he authorised by several precedents (which were mostly obsolete and anti-revolutional): he then applied to the defendant's behaviour to Mr. Wilkes, after his being brought before him; deducing thence that he did not in the least act from any particular pique or resentment, but from the nature of his office, which, by the force of presumption, authorised and demanded his acting in that manner.

Mr. Blackmore, one of the king's messengers, was the first person who was examined, and gave his evidence with clearness and precision. In regard to the seizure of Mr. Wilkes's papers, he honestly confessed, that upon Mr. Wilkes's refusing him the key of his bureau, he, agreeably to his orders, "picked the lock, and swept away every paper he found." Mr. Blackmore received general applause, for giving his evidence on the above trial in a manner so candid, unreserved, and impartial.

Matthew Browne, who was servant to Mr. Wilkes at the time his house was plundered, and who was to have been examined on the trial, in behalf of his master, was, by some unaccountable means, kept out of the way.

About seven o'clock the trial ended, and the jury, after being out about forty minutes, brought in a verdict of 4000*l.* damages.

The council for the plaintiff were, Serjeant Glynn, Serjeant Leigh, and Mr. Lee; and for the defendant, Serjeant Whitaker, Serjeant Davy, Serjeant Nares, and Mr. Wallis.

Great disturbances happened about this time among the weavers in Spitalfields. Numbers of them assembled together in a tumultuous manner, and refused working, unless their masters would augment their wages. In order to obtain support while they had thus thrown themselves out of employment, they formed a resolution to levy a certain tax on their more industrious brethren, for every loom; and if this imposition was not complied with, they destroyed their looms and cut their work to pieces, whence they were distinguished by the name of Cutters.

These riotous proceedings had continued for some time, and the destructive consequences arising from them were too considerable to pass longer unnoticed by those in whose power it was to repel such pernicious outrages. On the 30th of September two justices of the peace in the Tower Hamlets, with peace officers and a party of the guards, went in the evening to the Dolphin alehouse, where a large body of Cutters were then assembled. On their entering the house, the weavers, who were supplied with arms, began the attack, by firing at the soldiers, one of whom was killed. The soldiers finding them thus desperate, then loaded their pieces, and returning the fire, killed two of the rioters. The rest being intimidated endeavoured to make their escape, which most of them effected from the top of the house, leaving their weapons behind them: four, however, were apprehended and committed to prison, and a reward of 10*l.* was offered to any of them who would discover their accomplices.

Two of the rioters, John Doyle and John Valline, were tried at the Old Bailey sessions in the month of October; and being capitally convicted, the recorder passed sentence on them in the common form, that they should be hanged at the *usual* place of execution.

On the 9th of November the sheriffs received a warrant from the recorder to execute these criminals on the 15th, "at the most convenient place near Bethnal Green church." This strange deviation from the sentence pronounced in the

Old

Old Bailey, greatly alarmed the sheriffs, who doubting how far they might be justified in complying with this order, referred the state of the case to the opinion of Serjeant Glynn. The serjeant acknowledged he knew not any authority that could justify an alteration in the sentence of a court of justice, but as he could not positively determine on the materiality of the alteration, he advised them to represent their doubts to his majesty. In consequence of this advice the sheriffs wrote a letter to Lord Weymouth, secretary of state, in which was inclosed a petition directed to his majesty, requesting him to respite the execution of the criminals. The letter and paper contained in it were as follow :

“ To Lord Weymouth.

“ MY LORD,

“ The inclosed will inform your lordship of the difficulty we are under respecting the execution of Doyle and Val-line, two convicts now under sentence of death in Newgate. We propose to wait on his majesty to-morrow morning to deliver a like paper into his hands, of which we think it proper previously to transmit you this copy, that his majesty may be apprized of it.

“ We are, my lord,

“ Your lordship’s most obedient servants,

“ JAMES TOWNSEND,

“ JOHN SAWBRIDGE.”

London, November 13, 1769.

(Inclosed Copy.)

“ To the King’s Most Excellent Majesty.

“ MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

“ The recorder of London having signified to us, the sheriffs of the county of Middlesex, that it is your majesty’s pleasure that the two convicts, John Doyle and John Val-line, now under sentence of death in Newgate, who at the last sessions of gaol delivery holden for the city of London and county of Middlesex, were sentenced to be hanged at the usual place of execution, should, notwithstanding, be executed in the most convenient place near Bethnal Green church;

church ; we humbly conceive it our duty to lay before your majesty our doubts, whether we can lawfully comply with this your majesty's pleasure, to which, upon all occasions, it is our most earnest wish to be able to conform.

“ On the most mature deliberation and enquiry, which the time has permitted, we are advised, that the sentence pronounced by the court is our warrant for execution, to which we must look ; and that we shall not be justifiable in departing from it.

“ We therefore humbly pray that your majesty will be graciously pleased to respite the said execution, that the same may be re-considered ; and to give us such farther directions as may satisfy our doubts.

“ JAMES TOWNSEND,
“ JOHN SAWBRIDGE.”

The same evening Lord Weymouth sent an answer to the sheriffs, in which he told them he was ready to receive and lay before his majesty, in a proper manner, any doubts they might entertain with regard to the discharge of their duty.

The next morning the sheriffs waited on Lord Weymouth, and delivered into his hands a petition to his majesty, which was a copy of the same they had inclosed in their letter to his lordship ; and in the evening of the same day they received a letter from Lord Weymouth, containing the king's authority to respite the execution for seven days. In the mean time they were ordered to transmit the council's opinion on the case, that his majesty might be better enabled to give such farther directions as might satisfy their doubts.

On the 15th the sheriffs sent another letter to Lord Weymouth, containing a minute examination into the merits of the case, with Serjeant Glynn's opinion thereon. In consequence of which Lord Weymouth sent a letter to the recorder, containing his majesty's command that the two criminals should be respited a fortnight longer.

The lord chancellor on the 23d informed the sheriffs, that he had that morning referred the consideration of the case to the twelve judges, who would return their answer as soon as they had considered and formed their opinion on the same. On the

30th Lord Weymouth sent a letter to the sheriffs, informing them that the judges had given their opinion as follows—
“ that the time and place of execution are in law *no part* of the judgment: and that the recorder’s warrant was a lawful authority to the sheriffs as to the time and place of execution.”

In return to this the sheriffs sent a letter to the lord chancellor, in which they acknowledged their doubts to be over-ruled, but intimated that they were far from being satisfied. They added—“ If we have had our doubts, and have been mistaken in our opinion, we hope your lordship will excuse us, when you consider, that even the recorder, so conversant in these matters, and whose warrant is for the future to be our authority, was himself uncertain: for when he directed us in court to the usual place of execution, he must either have supposed it a part of the sentence, or that he was exercising a discretion in that particular vested in himself.—His subsequent warrant contradicted both these suppositions.

“ Supposing the place to be no part of the sentence, how could we avoid being startled, when we saw,

“ First, a discretion exercised by the recorder, directing us to the usual place of execution.

“ Secondly, a discretion exercised by the crown, setting aside the recorder’s discretion.

“ Thirdly, this discretion of the crown not signified to us by writ or sign manual, but by warrant from the recorder, whose discretion is over-ruled. And,

“ Lastly, a discretion left to ourselves to execute, not in, but as near to a church as we should judge convenient.”

On the 6th of December a letter was sent to the sheriffs by authority, informing them, that the opinion of the judges had been laid before the king, and that it was his majesty’s pleasure there should be no farther respite for the two convicts, as the sheriffs warrant was lawful both as to time and place of execution. Accordingly, on the 8th of December, the criminals were executed at Bethnal Green, attended only by the sheriffs and their peace officers, amidst

an innumerable concourse of spectators. When they arrived at the place of execution the mob grew exceedingly outrageous, and the sheriffs being fearful of the consequences, ordered the unhappy sufferers to be turned off before the usual time allowed on such occasions.—This example produced the wished-for effect; the misguided returned to their work, and tranquillity and industry were happily restored.

Mr. Beckford entered upon the duties of the supreme civic magistracy, with a dignity and independance, peculiar to his character, as a most respectable merchant, an unbiassed senator, and an uncorrupted patriot; and he had very soon an opportunity of calling forth the jealous independence of his office in contradiction to exercises of arbitrary power, and the insults of the lesser demagogues in command.

It should be recollected here that formerly the military had no business in any concerns of the city, the magistrates of which considered their internal authority sufficient for internal police, and on several occasions had resisted every military innovation. However, in the case of the Cutters, the soldiery had been permitted to pass through the metropolis in their way to Spitalfields. The commanding officer, encouraged by such *licence*, which he imagined constituted a *right*, presumed to order the drum and fife to be used, and sounded a march before his men through all the public streets, by the Mansion House, &c.

The magistracy so insulted, and the citizens so alarmed, urged the following correspondence:

To the Right Honourable Lord Barrington, Secretary at War.

“ Mansion House, Dec. 18, 1769.

“ MY LORD,

“ On Saturday, December the 16th, a relieved detachment of soldiers from Spitalfields, (without any previous notice given to the lord mayor) marched, on their return, before the Mansion House, and through the heart of the city, with drums beating and fifes playing, and made a very warlike

warlike appearance, which raised in the minds of the peaceable citizens the idea of a town garrisoned with regular troops.

“ I shall be much obliged to your lordship, if you will be pleased to inform me, whether this unusual appearance of soldiers marching through the heart of the city, with drums beating and fifes playing, was occasioned by the order of your lordship, or of any other commissioned officer.

“ Ever since I had the honour of being the first magistrate of this metropolis, I have not heard of any riot or disorder within my jurisdiction ; and I trust, if any tumult should be excited by evil-disposed persons, the force of the civil power will be sufficient to subdue all disturbances, and bring the offenders to justice, without the aid and assistance of a single military man.

“ I am with great respect,

“ Your lordship’s most obedient,

“ And very humble servant,

“ WILLIAM BECKFORD.”

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of London.

“ War Office, Dec. 19, 1769.

“ MY LORD,

“ I received your lordship’s letter of yesterday, informing me, that ‘ On Saturday last a relieved detachment of soldiers from Spitalfields, without any previous notice given to you, marched, on their return, before the Mansion House, and through the heart of the city, with drums beating and fifes playing.’

“ Your lordship desires I will inform you, ‘ whether this was occasioned by me, or the order of any commissioned officer.’

“ The detachment from the foot guards, relieved every twenty-four hours, which has for some time past done duty in Spitalfields, at the requisition of the worthy magistrates acting there, in order to secure the public peace, went by order from hence ; but no particular directions were given as to the manner in which they should march, which was left, as usual, to the discretion of the commanding officer.

" I am very clear in opinion, that no troops should march through the city of London in the manner described by your lordship, (though I find on inquiry, it is sometimes done) without previous notice given to the lord mayor ; and I shall take care, that the officer who commanded the detachment, which returned from Spitalfields last Saturday, shall know my opinion. I will also take such measures as shall, I trust, for the future, prevent any just offence being given to the city, or its chief magistrate.

" I have the honour to be,

" With great respect, my lord,

" Your lordship's most obedient

" Humble servant,

" BARRINGTON."

Such was the conduct of a Beckford !—and such ought to have been the conduct of future magistrates ; the present parade, every morning and evening, of the foot guards to the Bank might then have been prevented ; more especially when there are now two effective regular regiments of the City Militia, to whose province it justly belongs to preserve the property of that city to which they are appropriately affiliated. It is well known in many recollections, that some few years afterwards, in the mayoralty of Mr. Pickett, upon complaint to him of rude conduct of these sons of Mars from the west end of the town, he attempted to remonstrate with the commanding officer, who, though he knew him by the ensigns of his office, scandalously hurled into the highway, the first magistrate of the first city in the world—and was not punished for his insolent conduct *.—Had Beckford been lord mayor, he would have expiated his offence at leisure in Newgate !—We must add, that the insult to the lord mayor had been preceded by an assault of a most dangerous nature on Mr. Crespigny, son of a member of parliament,

* On the contrary, when the chief magistrate applied to the higher powers, it was intimated to him, " that if the measure of refusing to permit the soldiers to come into the city was persisted in, his majesty's ministers would, in all probability, advise, and exert their influence with the directors, to remove the Bank to Somerset Place !"

who

who was first pushed off the kirb-stone by one of the Bank guard, in their way to the City; and on his striking the assailer with his switch, was stabbed through the neck by a bayonet. "An assault," as Mr. Erskine termed it, "which had produced the most melancholy circumstances to Mr. Crespigny; inasmuch as it had impaired his mental faculties, and deprived him, in a great measure, of his memory."

The year 1770, exhibited an era of petition and remonstrance to the throne, detailing public grievances; the measure of remonstrance was the occasion of division in the court of aldermen, and a protest signed by sixteen of the court was published. This protest was of such a tendency, that three of the city companies took the presumptive liberty of disputing the power of the lord mayor in calling common halls on any other occasion than merely for the election of city officers. At a court of assistants of the Goldsmiths Company held the 22d of March, the following resolution was agreed to:

"The right honourable the lord mayor having issued precepts for summoning the livery of this city to meet at Guildhall on Tuesday the 6th instant, to consider of a farther application for redress of grievances, at which meeting a most indecent remonstrance was ordered to be presented to his majesty;

"Resolved and ordered, that for the future the wardens of this company do not summon the livery thereof, to attend at any meeting in the Guildhall (except for the purpose of elections) without the express approbation or consent of this court."

The companies of Grocers and Weavers followed the example of the Goldsmiths, and at their next court days distinguished themselves by passing resolutions of a like tendency.

On the 12th of April a common hall was held at Guildhall, by virtue of a precept from the lord mayor, to receive the report of his majesty's answer to the address, remonstrance, and petition of the lord mayor, aldermen, and livery of

London ; as also to hear the resolutions and addresses of the houses of Lords and Commons thereupon ; and to take into consideration the late proceedings of the companies of Goldsmiths, Weavers and Grocers, and in particular their resolution not to obey the orders of the lord mayor for summoning the livery of the respective companies to attend at common halls. The last committee of the livery were appointed to take into consideration what would be the proper mode of proceeding against the refractory companies.

A satisfactory answer to the late remonstrance having been denied, another was formed and presented at St. James's, which the town clerk having read to his majesty, seated on his throne, he was pleased to return the following answer :

“ I should have been wanting to the public as well as to myself, if I had not expressed my dissatisfaction to the late address.

“ My sentiments on that subject continue the same ; and I should ill deserve to be considered as the father of my people, if I could suffer myself to be prevailed upon to make such an use of my prerogative, as I cannot but think inconsistent with the interest, and dangerous to the constitution of the kingdom.”

To this answer William Beckford, Esq. the lord mayor, made his majesty a very modest, humble, and manly reply.

There not being any answer given to Mr. Beckford's reply, his lordship and company, after waiting about a minute, withdrew, and returned to the city, far from being satisfied with the issue of their application.

On the 23d of May the lord mayor, attended by the sheriffs and several of the aldermen, went in state to the Old Bailey, where his lordship laid the first stone of the present building called Newgate. Under the stone were deposited several gold coins of his present majesty ; and at the conclusion of the ceremony his lordship drank success to the building, that the liberties of the people might be as lasting as that stone, and that the place might want inhabitants.

This was the last transaction that distinguished the active part of Mr. Beckford's life ; for his lordship having made an

excursion to his seat at Fonthill in Wiltshire for the benefit of his health, he there contracted a severe cold ; and such was the anxiety of his mind in the discharge of his magisterial duties, that he travelled an hundred miles in one day, and this brought on a rheumatic fever, of which he died at his house in Soho Square, on the 21st of June.—If his lordship's character could want any additional lustre, it would receive it from the circumstance that occasioned his death. He persevered to the last in exerting his utmost endeavours to discharge the duties of his high office, and may be said to have sacrificed his life in the service of his fellow-citizens. He lived universally beloved, and died universally lamented.

Mr. Beckford's death occasioned three vacancies, viz. that of chief magistrate ; of alderman of Billingsgate ward ; and of one of the members of parliament for the city of London.

The alarming and unprecedented exertion of arbitrary power, by the imprisonment of Brass Crosby, esquire, lord mayor, and Mr. alderman Oliver, in the Tower, because, by rescuing their fellow citizens from the absolute mandate of the Speaker's warrant, unbacked by any city magistrate, they had conscientiously discharged their duty, and asserted the chartered rights of the city, forms a striking feature of the year 1771*. General disapprobation was excited, and an increased odium was attached to the ministry, from whose conduct this unpopular measure proceeded. Their machinations were baffled, and what they intended as a punishment of the city magistrates, redounded to their greater honour.

To

* At this time a circumstance happened, which it was greatly feared would have been attended with the most alarming consequences. The printers of certain newspapers were in the habit of detailing the debates of both houses. These communications were so highly gratifying to the public, that the success of a newspaper was principally dependent on the report of parliamentary proceedings. Those members who did not conceive that justice had been done to their harangues, were offended at the freedom of the writers, and Colonel Onslow made a complaint to the

To add also to the injuries of the people, and as an increased cause of complaint from the citizens, a bill was introduced in parliament, "for enabling certain persons to enclose and embank part of the river Thames, adjoining
Durham

the house of two publishers of newspapers, Thompson and Wheble, who being cited before the house, refused to appear; upon which a proclamation was published with a reward for apprehending them. This produced the desired effect. Mr. J. Wheble, one of these booksellers, was apprehended and taken before John Wilkes, Esq. the sitting alderman at Guildhall: but he discovering that the person who apprehended Mr. Wheble had no accusation against him, and only apprehended him on the authority of the proclamation; and at the same time Mr. Wheble declaring that the apprehender had forcibly detained him, and brought him there, the alderman immediately discharged him, and bound him over to prosecute his accuser. Mr. Miller, also printer of a public paper, was likewise taken into custody by a messenger from the house of commons, who, on his refusing to go with him, took him by the arm, in consequence of which a constable was sent for, and Mr. Miller gave him charge of the messenger for assaulting him in his own house; he was therefore taken to the Mansion House, and a hearing came on before the lord mayor, and the aldermen Wilkes and Oliver. In the mean time, the serjeant at arms being informed of this transaction, came to demand the bodies of the messenger and of Mr. Miller. The lord mayor asked the messenger, if he had applied to a magistrate to indorse the warrant, or to any peace officer of the city to assist him; and on his replying in the negative, his lordship declared, that no power could seize a citizen of London, without an order from him, or some other magistrate; and that he was of opinion, the seizing of Miller and the warrant were both illegal; he therefore declared Mr. Miller to be at liberty and proceeded to examine witnesses to prove the assault by the messenger; which being accomplished, his lordship asked the latter if he chose to give bail. This he at first refused to do; but his commitment being actually made out, he thought proper to comply, when he himself was bound in forty pounds, and two sureties in twenty pounds, for his appearance at the next sessions at Guildhall.

Wheble had been taken by Twine Carpenter, a printer, and carried before Mr. Wilkes, who not only discharged him, but took recognizances for prosecuting the person by whom he was apprehended. Mr. Dowdeswell, who attempted to interest the house of commons in Carpenter's behalf, received the following whimsical answer from Wedderburne. "As to the affair of Mr. Twine Carpenter, I can see no reason for supporting him: as I understand it, the man is Mr. Wheble's devil:

Wheble

Durham Yard, Salisbury Street, Cecil Street, and Beaufort Buildings, in the county of Middlesex." Many objections were made to this bill; it was asserted to be destructive to the antient rights and property of the city of London; but notwithstanding this and other equally forcible assertions, one line of conduct was pursued, and the bill was passed. Some of the peers protested against its injustice; the city petitioned. They complained in this petition, that the step was violent, unjust, and a peculiar invasion of the property which they claimed from time immemorial in the soil or bed of the river. A deaf ear was turned to all these representations; the bill received the royal assent; and thus arose the Adelphi Buildings.

Wheble was arrested by his own devil: he was discharged out of the illegal arrest of this devil: the devil was bound over to answer: whether printer beats devil, or devil beats printer, is of no consequence; there may be the devil to do; there will be the devil to pay: if the devil has had the reward that was advertised, the devil has fairly outwitted the noble lord near me: whether he has or not, I do not know; but I hope this house will have nothing to do with him."

After many and tedious debates, the house of commons having resolved, "That the proceeding of the lord mayor and Mr. Oliver, was a breach of the privilege of that house," committed them both to the Tower, where they continued till the prorogation of parliament, which happened on the eighth of May, when his majesty terminated the session with a speech from the throne.

During the continuance of the lord mayor and Mr. alderman Oliver in the Tower, they were addressed and applauded for their spirited conduct in maintaining the authority of the laws of their country, by every ward in London, and by several of the principal towns and boroughs in England. Great preparations were made for conducting the two patriots from the Tower; but the parliament being prorogued one day sooner than was expected, a few only of the aldermen could attend. The procession was, however, magnificent, and they were conducted to the Mansion House amid hosts of applauding spectators. From this time, without dreading the effects of parliamentary displeasure, the printers have regularly published the debates of the two houses, in the prints of the following day: nor is it to be supposed, that the sources of that intelligence will be withheld from the people, by the legislative body.

At

At a court of common council held the 28th of May, it was resolved and ordered, " That it be referred to the committee appointed to assist the lord mayor and alderman Oliver in the Tower, to state cases, and take opinions, whether there is any, and what method to bring into a course of trial, the legality of an imprisonment by a vote of either house of parliament."—It was further resolved, " That in case the said committee should be advised, that the legality of the commitment of the lord mayor and alderman Oliver can be put into a due course of trial by law, they be authorized so to do."

At another court of common council held the 5th of June, the opinions of the counsel who had been consulted by the committee abovementioned were read to the court, when it appeared, they did not think any action could be commenced on that account. At the same time the report was made from the committee, who had been appointed to consider of a proper mode of proceeding against the Goldsmiths, Grocers, and Weavers companies, for their disobedience to the lord mayor's precepts. This committee reported, that they stated the following queries to counsel; namely, the power of the lord mayor in calling common halls—The obligation of the master and wardens of the several livery companies to obey the lord mayor's precepts—And the method of punishing them on refusal: whether they were punishable by the lord mayor only, or by the court of aldermen, or court of common council separately, or by the common hall or livery in common hall assembled.

The answers to these questions were as follow:

" We conceive it to be the duty of the proper officers of the several companies, to whom precepts for summoning their respective liveries have been usually directed, to execute those precepts; and that a wilful refusal on their parts is an offence punishable by disfranchisement. If it be thought proper to prosecute with that view in the present case, we think it most advisable to proceed in the usual way, by information to be filed by the common serjeant in the mayor's court,

court, which the common serjeant may file, *ex officio*, if he pleases, or at the instance of either of the bodies mentioned in the query.

ALEX. WEDDERBURNE.

J. GLYNN.

J. DUNNING.

T. NUGENT *."

At a court of common council held the 18th, a motion was made by Mr. alderman Wilkes, which produced the following resolution of the court: "That the lord mayor, or sitting alderman, upon complaint made before him of any person or persons, suspected of forestalling, engrossing, or regrating any kinds of provisions, shall, if such complaints appear to him well grounded, be empowered to direct the solicitor of the city to prosecute the offender or offenders at the expence of the city."

On the 30th of June, came on at Guildhall the trial of Edward Twine Carpenter, for an assault, in seizing and taking up the person of J. Wheble, according to the royal proclamation for that purpose, when he was found guilty, fined one shilling, and ordered to be imprisoned for two months in Wood Street Compter.

On the 17th of July, the lord mayor, Sir Richard Glyn, Mr. alderman Peers, several of the city officers, the gentlemen of his lordship's household, attended by the city marshal and under-marshals, held a court of conservancy at Stratford for the county of Essex; after which they went to Woolwich, and held another court for the county of Kent. They then embarked on board two yachts, and proceeded

* A motion was made and carried on the ensuing Midsummer Day, "That the livery of London do desire the common council to present a silver cup to the right honourable the lord mayor, of the value of 200l. with the city arms engraved thereon; and to the aldermen Wilkes and Oliver, one each of the value of 100l. as marks of their gratitude for their upright conduct in the affair of the printers, and for supporting the city charters." Though this motion was readily agreed to by the livery, it met with some obstacles in the court of common council; and so long was it before it was carried, that the cups were not presented to the different parties till the month of January following.

down the river, as far as the city's jurisdiction extends, to see what encroachments had been made, that the parties offending might be proceeded against according to law. His lordship arrived at Rochester, on Tuesday afternoon, and was immediately complimented by some of the principal persons in the town. The next morning the whole company embarked again, and landing near Upnor Castle, marched in procession to the stone that marks the bounds of the city jurisdiction; on which the sword of state was immediately laid. His lordship observing some letters fresh cut on the side of the stone next the land, and being told they were intended to signify a claim of Mrs. Hill, lady of the manor, he ordered them to be erased, and attended while the following inscription was cut on it—BRASS CROSBY, esquire, LORD MAYOR, 1771.

On Michaelmas day, an order was given to the city solicitor, to file an information of disfranchisement in the mayor's court, against the masters and wardens of the three refractory companies of Goldsmiths, Grocers, and Weavers, for refusing to obey the lord mayor's precept for a common hall. Mr. alderman Plumbe, as late master of the goldsmiths company, was one of the delinquents.

On the 16th of October, John Wilkes and Frederick Bull, esquires, who had been elected the two sheriffs, sent the following letter to the keeper of Newgate :

*Mr. Reynold's Office, No. 39, Lime Street,
October 16, 1771.*

“ SIR,

“ We are very well satisfied with your general conduct in the office you hold under us, and in particular with the humanity you always shew to the unhappy persons under your care. There are, however, two glaring abuses of importance, which we are determined to rectify at the ensuing session on Wednesday next, and all the subsequent sessions during the time we are in office.

“ The first is, the prisoners remaining in irons at the time of arraignment and trial. This we conceive to be equally repugnant to the laws of England and of humanity,
Every

Every person at so critical a moment, ought to be without any bodily pain or restraint, that the mind may be perfectly free to deliberate on its most interesting and awful concerns in so alarming a situation. It is cruelty to aggravate the feelings of the unhappy in a state of such distraction; and injustice to deprive them of any advantage for the defence of supposed innocence, by calling off the attention by bodily torture, at the great moment, when the full exertion of every faculty is most wanted. No man in England ought to be compelled to plead while in chains. We therefore are determined to abolish the present illegal and inhuman practice; and we direct you to take off the irons before any prisoner is set to the bar, either for arraignment or trial.

“ The other abuse we are determined to reform is, the taking of money for admission into the court at the Old Bailey. This, likewise, we hold to be contrary to law. It is one of the most glorious privileges of this nation, that our courts of justice must always be open and free, that no judicial proceedings can be had in a secret, clandestine manner, but that the conduct of the judges, juries, and witnesses, is submitted to the eye of a judicious and impartial public, without any expence, fee, or gratification whatever. We need not enumerate to you, the constant complaints made on this subject every session, and the tumults occasioned by the exactions of the officers, &c. We have given orders to our officers to admit *gratis* all persons who behave decently, into any part of the court, not particularly assigned to the judges, aldermen, grand or petty juries, witnesses, or officers of the court. We expect the like orders from you to all your servants. To inform the public of this regulation, we desire you to affix the following words in large letters, on the several entrances into the court, “ No money is to be taken for admission into any part of this court of justice.”

“ JOHN WILKES.

“ FREDERICK BULL.”

“ To Mr. Richard Akerman,
Keeper of Newgate.”

The death of his majesty's mother, the princess dowager of Wales, took place at the commencement of the year 1772.

The refractory city companies having removed several informations of disfranchisement; from the mayor's court, to the court of King's Bench, and the city solicitor having obtained rules for them to shew cause why the several writs of *Certiorari* for removing the same should not be quashed, the matter was argued in that court on the first of June, when Lord Mansfield gave the opinion of the court thereon; which was, That the writs had been improvidently granted; that causes of that nature had no business in Westminster Hall: that every corporation *inter se*, was the sole judge of its own rights and franchises; and that the corporation of London had the right and power of determining the present cause solely in their own hands. In consequence of this; on the 23d of June, the city solicitor signed judgment of disfranchisement against the masters and wardens of the three companies, in the mayor's court; but in the afternoon, the recorder set the judgment aside, in order as he alledged, to give the parties an opportunity of trying the merits of the cause at large.

The year 1773 commenced with a dreadful fire, which broke out on the 18th of February, in the house of Mrs. Collier and Miss Smith, milliners in Bishopsgate Street, which burnt with such fury, that out of eleven persons in the house, only three escaped with their lives. This dreadful catastrophe was occasioned by the incautious and absurd method of drying a large quantity of linen by the kitchen-fire, and which was left unwatched, when the family went to rest.

A remarkable instance of mortality among the city magistrates occurred in the course of four years, from 1769 to 1773, as follows: Sir Francis Gosling, succeeded by Mr. Wilkes. Sir Joseph Hankey, succeeded by Mr. Sawbridge. Sir Thomas Rawlinson, succeeded by Mr. Rossiter. Sir William Baker, succeeded by Mr. Bird. William Beckford, esquire, succeeded by Mr. Oliver. None died in 1771. In 1772 died Richard Peers, esquire, succeeded by Mr.

Bull. Sir Robert Kite, succeeded by Sir Watkin Lewes. Mr. Bird, succeeded by Sir William Plomer. Sir Richard Glyn, succeeded by Mr. Rawlinson. And lastly, Mr. Nash, succeeded by Mr. Thomas.—These are circumstances not to be paralleled, in so short a space, in the annals of the metropolis.

On the 16th of June, the recorder's salary was augmented, during pleasure, by the court of common council, to 1000*l.*; and at the same time an additional sum of 200*l.* *per annum* was granted to the common serjeant.

The long depending cause between the Common Serjeant of the city of London, plaintiff, and Samuel Plumbe, esq. prime warden (or master) of the company of goldsmiths, defendant, came on at Guildhall. The suit was instituted against the defendant for refusing to obey a precept issued in the year 1770, by the then lord mayor (Mr. Beckford) to convene the livery of the said company to a common hall. The cause was opened in a brief manner by Mr. Allen, on the part of the plaintiff; after which, Mr. Dunning entered more minutely into the business; and spoke for near two hours. He acquainted the jury, that the charge brought against the defendant, was a wilful disobedience of that authority, to which (in the present case) he was bound, both as a liveryman and a freeman, to pay a submission: that the defendant acknowledged the charge, but pleaded in justification, that the company of goldsmiths were possessed of a prerogative, which in some instances (particularly the present) exempted them from submission to the mandates of the lord mayor: that the defendant also attempted to justify himself on the plea, that the lord mayor had no authority to call a common hall, save for the purpose of elections of members of parliament, lord mayor, sheriffs, &c. that in order to invalidate this defence, extracts from the city records should be read to them, from whence it would clearly appear, that the lord mayor of London had, from the earliest periods, been invested with that power, which the defendant pretended, on the present occasion, to deny the existence of.

The

The city records were then produced, and many extracts from them were read, tending to prove the authority of the lord mayor to convene a common hall for other purposes than simply those of elections. These extracts being gone through, Mr. serjeant Burland rose, and in a very masterly speech, entered upon his client's defence, in answer to Mr. Dunning. The defendant's council having finished their pleadings, Mr. Dunning next rose, and made a final reply to their arguments. He quoted a multiplicity of cases from the Refertory book, all demonstratively shewing that similar precepts had, in former times, been issued by the mayor for convening the livery on other purposes than that of elections; that implicit obedience had always been paid to such precepts, consequently their validity was established by prescription, and their legality acknowledged by the subjection so readily yielded to them. He then recognized those matters alledged in the defendant's plea, relative to the "antiquity of the goldsmith's company, and power to make bye-laws for the government of their own members." As to bye-laws (said he) undoubtedly every company has a right to frame such as shall more immediately conduce to the good government of the company: amongst every society of men bye-laws are admitted; but then the bye-laws must be such as do not clash with that relation in which a single company stands to the city at large, a relation which is as part to the whole. The bye-laws, therefore, of every company are framed for internal government; but will any man pretend to say that exigencies may not arise wherein it would be highly proper to take the sense, not of this or that company but of the city bodies at large? and how shall this sense be taken, unless a power of convening is supposed to reside somewhere? And if the necessity of the existence of such a power be admitted, where ought it to reside, in whose hands ought it to be entrusted? From every consideration of policy and of wisdom, the power of convening should reside in the chief magistrate, who should be allowed to judge when and how far the exercise of such power may conduce to the welfare of the whole. To suppose the goldsmiths, or
any

any other company to be self-existent, independent, subject to no laws but those of its own will; to allow this is to suppose a part to bear no relation to, but to be altogether independent of the whole; a proposition which carries absurdity upon the very face of it! A proposition which, if admitted, would strike at the very existence of the city as a corporation! For the different companies, like so many component parts, make but one whole: they form, in an aggregate sense, the corporation. It is not when a part that the corporation is discernible, but when the members are assembled in convention; so that a power of convening is not only essential to the existence, but is also involved in the very idea of a corporation.

Mr. serjeant Burland, in the course of his pleadings, having remarked, that the instances produced by Mr. Dunning from the city records, were but few in number, Mr. Dunning replied, "that as to the paucity of instances the gentleman had no right to complain. Quevedo (says he) when in the romance, he is made to visit hell, he saw several kings there, and expressing his surprize that he saw no more, his guide told him, there were all that ever reigned;—and I have brought all the instances that are to be produced."

The arguments being finally closed, the whole was then recommended to the serious attention of the jury by the Recorder, who summed up the evidence; and the jury, after deliberating on the matter about three quarters of an hour, brought in a verdict for the plaintiff.

The year 1774, was productive of an act of parliament of great utility and benefit to the public, "for preventing the mischiefs arising from driving cattle in London, Westminster, and the bills of mortality."—By this act it declared, "That, from the passing thereof, if any person hired, or employed to drive cattle within the above limits shall, by negligence or ill usage in driving, be the cause of any mischief done by such cattle; or if any such driver shall be guilty of improperly driving, treating, or using such cattle; it shall be lawful for any peace officer, on view thereof, or information of any person who shall certify the name and place of abode
of

of such offender, to seize and, without other warrant, to convey such offender before some justice within whose jurisdiction the offence shall be committed; and, if the party accused shall, upon the oath of one witness, be found guilty, they shall pay, not more than twenty, nor less than five shillings, to the person who shall prosecute to conviction; in case of refusal or disability to pay, the offender to be committed to hard labour for one month, or to be publicly whipped. Persons giving information to the peace officers, and not attending within six hours after such information given, shall forfeit, not more than forty shillings, nor less than ten; in default of payment, to be levied by distress. The lord mayor and court of aldermen are empowered to make, alter, and amend rules, &c. for regulating drovers; and to annex forfeitures for the breach thereof, not more than forty shillings, nor less than ten. The time for holding the market in Smithfield is fixed to be from twelve at night to three the next afternoon, unless hereafter altered by the lord-mayor, &c. Offenders refusing to tell their names, are to be committed for a month, or until they comply. Abstracts of this act, and the rules, &c. to be printed and fixed up in conspicuous places within the limits above mentioned, and within fourteen days from the making such rules, &c. Offenders taking shelter in jurisdictions different from those where the offences shall be committed, may be apprehended by warrants indorsed by justices of such jurisdiction; and goods removed, to avoid distress, may be seized in the same manner. All prosecutions to be brought within fourteen days. Persons aggrieved may appeal to the quarter sessions, whose determination is to be final.

During this year it appeared, upon an exact calculation, that 94,000 thousand head of cattle, and above 800,000 sheep and lambs, had been sold in Smithfield market. A wonderful contrast to the consumption at former periods.

On the third of February, 1775, came on to be argued, before the judges of appeal in Serjeant's Inn, Chancery Lane, the cause relative to the disfranchisement of alderman Plumbe, brought by writ of error before their lordships, when

when Mr. Mansfield, as counsel for the plaintiff in error, endeavoured to prove that the client, as a citizen of London, was not subject to disfranchisement for not obeying the lord mayor's precept, to summon, as chief warden of the Goldsmiths company, the livery of the said company to attend in Guildhall, to hear his majesty's answer to the humble address and remonstrance of the corporation of London; as the only legal business of convening the livery, he said, was for them to elect their members of parliament, magistrates, and other officers; all other corporate business of the city coming under the cognizance of the common council; and he recited many law reports to confirm his argument. Mr. Davenport, as counsel for the defendant in error, observed, that it was the duty of the plaintiff to obey the lord mayor's precept, and that he was obliged to do so by his oath as a freeman; that it was impossible to know the sense of the citizens but by such meetings; that no person was so proper to call them together as the lord mayor or chief magistrate; and he enforced his arguments by many pertinent cases in law. The judge, however, adjourned the further arguing of the cause to a future day.

Lord chief justice de Grey, lord chief baron Smythe, Mr. justice Aston, and Mr. justice Ashurst, (the commissioner appointed to review the proceedings on an information of disfranchisement filed against Mr. alderman Plumbe,) met on the 7th of July, according to their adjournment, at Guildhall, and delivered their judgment, which was, that they were unanimously of opinion, that the information was erroneous in many particulars, which they severally specified; and that Mr. alderman Plumbe, by neglecting to summon the livery of the Goldsmiths company, of which he was prime warden, to attend alderman Beckford, when lord mayor, at a common hall, had not been guilty of any offence against his oath and duty as a freeman; consequently the judgment of disfranchisement pronounced against him in the mayor's court by the Recorder, was by them reversed*.

A dreadful

* This decision was not satisfactory inasmuch as it maintained wrong premises. To prove this, we will subjoin part of lord chief justice De Grey's

A dreadful accident by fire occurred in the early part of this year, at the house of Mr. Hopkins, hosier, the corner of Warwick Lane, Newgate Street. The lives lost by this horrid

Grey's opinion, and the observations of James Roberts, esquire, city solicitor, upon that opinion, from a statement of the whole proceedings, by Mr. Roberts, which, on account of the legal knowledge contained, were afterwards printed, by order of the court of common council.

"We will take it in every point and light of the case," says his lordship; "supposing it to be the case, that he (alderman Plumbe) has offended and been guilty of a crime, so as to forfeit an office: this gentleman had three characters in him, a freeman of the city, an alderman, and a warden of a company. Now the rule of law is most clear in this point, and there cannot, I think, be a difference of opinion about it, that in all offences of this sort, *puniatur in eo quo deliquit*, no person is to be punished but in the capacity in which he has offended. As an alderman, he could not have offended; as a warden of the company, he could not execute the precept; as a freeman, he could not offend; because that is a distinct character. It is an indefinite general right, and not a right relative to any particular parts of the city. The mayor, in issuing his precept, must direct it to the proper officer pointed out by the constitution; where the constitution has appointed an officer to serve the precept, the mayor cannot direct it to another; and if the warden was not the proper person here, the mayor could not send it to a freeman: nay, he could not send it to a warden in the character of a freeman; if it had been received in that character it could not be executed; if executed in that character it could not be obeyed; and the not obeying it would not be a disobedience which could possibly be a crime: they might have attended if they pleased, but they were not obliged to attend upon an irregular summons."

Observation. The proceedings against the defendant are only as a freeman and warden of the company, and have nothing to do with his character of an alderman. It is contended, nay, it is proved by the verdict of the jury, that the defendant had offended in a double capacity, both as a freeman and a warden, if we cannot punish him merely as warden, punish him as a freeman, in which character he also offended, and then the rule or maxim of *puniatur in eo quo deliquit* will be complied with. Is he charged with having offended as an alderman? If he is not, why is that character introduced here? But although the defendant could not offend as an alderman, yet he did offend as warden as well as freeman, the order of the court being no warrant or legal excuse for his refusal; and as a freeman he did offend, as well by being in the capacity of such freeman, guilty of a breach of his oath in not maintaining the rights and franchises of this city, as of a warden, (who was and by the constitution

horrid calamity, as well as the distress occasioned to the survivors, form a too shocking retrospect to enter into particulars.

The year 1775, has nothing sufficiently striking, except that at the expiration of Mr. Wilkes's mayoralty, a motion was made and carried in the court of aldermen, "that the thanks of the court be presented to John Wilkes, esquire, the late lord mayor, for his indefatigable attention to the several duties of that important office; for the particular regard and politeness which he was pleased at all times to shew to the members of the court; for his wise, upright, and impartial administration of justice; for his diligence on all occasions to promote the welfare and true interest of this city; and for his unblemished conduct and exemplary behaviour during the whole course of his mayoralty." The court likewise voted Mr. Wilkes 100*l.* to be sent him, for the care he had taken of the plate, furniture, &c. at the Mansion House.

constitution of the city ought to be a freeman,) and was, in respect of this part of his duty, by the usage and custom of the city, for this particular purpose their immediate officer, and therefore for neglect of that duty which was due from him as such warden to the corporation at large, and not to his own particular company, he was liable to be disfranchised as such officer, who if he was not a freeman, could not legally be a warden.

It is true the mayor must direct his precept to the proper officer pointed out by the constitution; by usage and custom it is directed to the master and wardens, as the proper persons to see the same executed, but though directed to them as master and wardens, it is still sent to them as freemen, in regard merely as master or wardens of the company, the corporation have no power or authority whatever over them, and though they execute this warrant in the character of the master or wardens, yet respecting the duty due from them to the city at large, it is as a freeman chosen and distinguished for that and other purposes, by the name of master or warden: the mayor sends every precept to the warden in the character of a freeman likewise, for if he is not a freeman, neither he nor the city have any coercive power to enforce obedience, but he directs it to the freemen by the distinguished name of Master or Warden, and though it is admitted that if executed by a freeman who was neither master nor warden it would not be obeyed, neither would it be regular if executed by a master or warden who was not a freeman, the one would be full as irregular as the other.

The interval from this period to the year 1783, was a scene of hostility, awful and afflicting. The war with our fellow subjects in North America, to satisfy the capricious dogmas of an unthinking ministry, is a circumstance of deep regret, whether we consider the national loss of our extensive and populous colonies, the cruelties exercised against the natives, the shocks and ruin of commerce, by which the mercantile interest, and particularly the city of London was affected. An unusual inattention universally prevailed. Victories or defeats produced equal emotion; the losses of the West India traders during the year 1776, from the seizure of their ships by the American cruizers; the frequent failures in the city; all these could not produce the awakening power, expected from a people who suffer their spirits to be either elated or depressed, more from the vicissitudes of commerce, than from any other cause. The ministry profited by this apathy. They hired additional forces; they increased their shipping, and manned them by proclamation and pressing; the latter method they were necessitated to, from the disinclination of Britons to embroil their hands in the blood of their injured fellow subjects and brethren.

This year at its commencement was distinguished by a smart contest for chamberlain of the city. The upright and worthy magistrate, Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen, having sent his resignation, on account of his bad state of health, John Wilkes, esquire, and Benjamin Hopkins, esquire, aldermen, and deputy John Paterson, declared themselves candidates for the office; the latter, however, declined the contest, and the aldermen were left to exert their interests.

On the day appointed for the election, there was the most numerous appearance of the livery that had ever been known on any occasion. After the Common Crier had opened the business of the common hall, the Recorder came forward, and read a letter from Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen, requiring permission to resign the office of Chamberlain, on account of his ill state of health, and his inability to discharge the duties of that important office. As soon as the Recorder had finished, Mr. alderman Wilkes addressed himself to the livery as follows:

“ Gentlemen of the Livery,

“ Before we proceed to any other business, I believe you will all agree with me, that there is a tribute of gratitude we ought to pay to our late worthy chamberlain, Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen, who, with great ability and integrity, has filled that important office upwards of eleven years. His whole life, indeed, has been a continued series of real and essential services to this city and country. On some of the most critical occasions in our times, he has exerted himself with equal zeal and success in the public cause. His conduct, gentlemen, would be a most pleasing subject to enlarge upon; but it is well known, and needs not the aid of my feeble endeavours. His very superior merit is universally acknowledged. He has formerly been highly approved as your representative in parliament, as alderman, sheriff, and mayor. He has now closed the scene as your chamberlain, in the most distinguished manner, and retires from public life fuller of honours than of years. The heart of every liveryman of London, I am sure, will go along with me in the motion, which I now beg leave to submit to you.

“ Resolved, That the thanks of the common hall be given to Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen, bart. late chamberlain of this city, for his various and important services, as representative of this city in parliament, as alderman, sheriff, mayor, and chamberlain, and for his uniform zeal and activity in promoting on every occasion, the true interest of this metropolis.”

• This motion being unanimously agreed to, the two candidates, aldermen Wilkes and Hopkins, were severally put up, when the shew of hands appearing full two to one in favour of Mr. alderman Wilkes, the sheriffs declared him duly elected. A poll, however, was afterwards demanded on the part of alderman Hopkins, which began the same day, and finally closed on Tuesday the 27th, when the numbers appeared as follow :

For Mr. alderman Hopkins	- - - - -	2,887
Mr. alderman Wilkes	- - - - -	2,710

Therefore

Therefore Mr. Hopkins was declared duly elected, and afterwards sworn in.

It was in this year determined by a cause which had been carried on at the expence of the court of aldermen, " that no gentleman, because he chuses to fill a magisterial office of honour, is to be discharged from his parochial obligations, wherever he may be an inhabitant." This was in consequence of a dispute between alderman Newnham and the parish in which he resided, on account of a claim of exemption as an alderman of London.

Various circumstances had induced the corporation to enquire into the state of the city cash, and the probable expences attending the mayoralty ; when it appeared that the receipts and payments of the five preceding mayors were as under :

	Receipts.				Payments.			
Samuel Turner, esquire,	5,731	5	10	-	7,349	12	4	
Brass Crosby, esquire -	4,251	11	6	-	6,685	10	11	
James Townsend, esquire,	3,896	0	0	-	7,592	16	9	
Frederick Bull, esquire,	5,647	13	8	-	9,292	10	0	
John Wilkes, esquire, -	4,889	0	6	-	8,226	13	0	

The account of the late alderman Beckford's first mayoralty had amounted to - £. 5,578 17 0 - 6,896 19 10

The committee having therefore compared the accounts, and having likewise had the statement of monies received by the mayors from 1750 to 1775, both inclusive, for the sale of offices, places, &c. came to the following resolutions :

" I. That it appears to the committee, that the annual income of the office of mayor of this city, amounts to about 4,000*l.*

" II. That the probable receipts arising from the sale of offices, places, &c. for twenty-six years past, amounted upon an average to 531*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.* *per annum* ; and for the last ten years, to 670*l.* *per annum.*

" III. That the probable expences attending the mayoralty of the city, amounted to 7,600*l.* *per annum.*"

The committee therefore recommended, that in future, the sums arising from the sale of all officers places of this city

city whatsoever, should be paid into the chamber of London; and that the court do allow the future mayors 1000*l. per annum*, in lieu of the said places." This was a measure highly liberal in the corporation, inasmuch as it prevented the highest office in the city from being burthened with any inconvenience. The lord mayor, was, however to retain the profits of the cocket office.

In the month of October, the admiralty issued press warrants, and urged John Sawbridge, esquire, lord mayor, to back them, that they might be enforced in the city. This his lordship absolutely refused; but offered such liberal bounties, that several idle hands entered themselves, and prevented such an odious breach of the constitution.

The consequence of the lord mayor's refusal was, that one of the city watermen was impressed and detained. This roused the indignation of the corporation, and therefore at a court of aldermen held on the 19th of November, on the petition of William Dawson, esquire, the water-bailiff, the town-clerk was ordered to write to the lords of the admiralty, to request them to discharge John Tubbs, one of the city watermen, who had been impressed.

On the 22d, another common council was held at Guild-hall, when the lord mayor acquainted the court, that the occasion of calling them together was to lay before them a letter the town-clerk had received from Philip Stephens, Esq. secretary to the lords of the admiralty, in answer to a letter he wrote to their lordships by direction of the court of aldermen, concerning John Tubbs, one of the city watermen, being impressed. The court, after debating a long time, agreed, that the city solicitor should take such steps as might be necessary to obtain a *Habeas Corpus* for John Tubbs, to procure his discharge. A committee of six aldermen and twelve commoners were appointed to manage and conduct the matter.

On

* The following are true copies of the town clerk's letter to the lords of the admiralty, by order of the court of lord mayor and aldermen, and the answer of Philip Stephens, esquire, secretary to their lordships:

" My

On the 26th, an application was made to the court of King's Bench, for a *Habeas Corpus*, and Lord Mansfield was so perfectly satisfied with the affidavits produced to ground the motion, that he immediately offered to the council on behalf of the city, either immediately to grant the writ as desired, or a rule for the lords of the admiralty, and the captain or commanding officer of the ship in which the

" MY LORDS,

" Wm. Dawson, esquire, the city's water bailiff, having this day informed the court of lord mayor and aldermen, that lieutenant Tate of Gravesend, did on the 4th instant, impress John Tubbs, one of this city's watermen; I am directed by the said court to desire your lordships will give orders for the immediate discharge of the said John Tubbs.

I have the honour to be

My Lords,

Town Clerk's, Guildhall,
19th Nov. 1776.

Your lordships most obedient
humble servant,

WM. RIX, Town Clerk."

" *The Right Honourable the Lords of the Admiralty.*"

To which letter the Town Clerk received this answer :

" *Admiralty Office, 20th November, 1776.*

" SIR,

" Your letter of yesterday contains a demand on the part of the court of lord mayor and aldermen of the city of London, of the immediate discharge of John Tubbs, who has been impressed, and is stated to be one of the city's watermen.

" This is a solemn demand of his discharge as a matter of right, as to which I am directed by the lords commissioners of the admiralty to observe to you, that the condition of John Tubbs, makes him clearly liable, in law, to be impressed, insomuch, that if he had absconded to avoid the press, he would have been punishable by the court of aldermen for so doing.

" As matter of right, therefore, it is impossible to give him up; and the demand being made in that form, renders it equally impossible to shew that degree of attention to their application, which it might otherwise, if circumstances would have allowed it, have been their lordships inclination to have done.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble servant,

PH. STEPHENS."

" *William Rix, Esq. Town Clerk, City of London.*"

waterman

waterman is confined, to shew cause why the same should not issue; directing, that in the mean time, the waterman should not be removed or sent away*.

To

* This case was argued in the court of King's Bench on the 28th of November, when Lord Mansfield thus delivered his sentiments from the bench. "I am very sorry that either of the respectable parties before the court, the city of London on the one hand, or the lords commissioners of the admiralty on the other, have been prevailed upon to agitate this question.

"Of the utility of this man to the city of London, or to the lord mayor, no one can seriously speak: a man retained to earn half-a-crown a day; without badge or livery, without any obligation upon him to attend; whose entrance into the service of the lord mayor is voluntary; and who, if he chuses to quit it for any other employment, creates no inconvenience to any body, or a difficulty to supply his place! Notwithstanding this, if the city of London has a privilege of protecting thirty-one persons from being impressed, they have a right to insist upon such privilege. On the other hand, where is the immense utility to the public service with regard to these thirty-one persons, whether they are pressed or not? It is impossible they can be an object. The utility therefore in the one case or the other cannot be the ground of the present dispute. But it must have arisen upon this: the city would not ask or take the exemption of this man as a *favour*; but insist upon it as a *right*; and in a manner in which they never insisted upon it before. And the admiralty, jealous of new rights of exemption being set up, would not grant it as a *right*. The real question between them is, whether there is a *legal right of exemption* or not.

"I was in hopes the court would have had an opportunity of investigating this point to the bottom, instead of being urged to discuss it so instantaneously; and without any evidence with regard to the foundation of the claim: I own, I wished for a more deliberate consideration upon the subject; but being prevented of that, I am bound to say what my present sentiments are.

"The power of pressing is founded upon immemorial usage, allowed for ages: if it be so founded and allowed for ages, it can have no ground to stand upon, nor can it be vindicated or justified by any reason but the safety of the state: and the practice is deduced from that trite maxim of the constitutional law of England, "that private mischief had better be submitted to, than public detriment and inconvenience should ensue." To be sure, there are instances where private men must give way to the public good. In every case of pressing, every man must be very sorry for the act, and for the necessity which gives rise to it. It ought therefore to be exercised with the greatest moderation; and only upon the most cogent

To evince also the humour of the higher powers, and that they were determined to carry their measures by coercion, they suffered their press gangs to attack several persons in the

gent necessity. And though it be a legal power, it may like many others be abused in the exercise of it. A bailiff may execute legal process in such a manner, as the court would commit for: in like manner, the power of pressing may be abused; as by pressing the watermen of the lord mayor whilst they are in the act of rowing him in his barge. And many other instances might be put.

“ Being founded in immemorial usage, there can be no doubt but there may be an exception out of it, on the same foundation; upon immemorial usage. I therefore lay out of the case all that has been said about the necessity of an act of parliament to create an exemption; and likewise all that has been mentioned relative to the doubt stated of the power of the crown to exempt by charter. If it were at all necessary to go into that question here, it might be sufficient to observe, that all the rights of the city have been confirmed by act of parliament.—But what has been approved by immemorial usage allowed for ages, is always supposed to have had a good beginning. [With due deference to his lordship’s opinion, the same doctrine would sanction General Warrants, or any other act of injustice or oppression, which an arbitrary government might think convenient to inflict.] Therefore, if the exception or exemption stands upon that ground, it is as good as the institution itself.

The only question, upon what appears before us is, “ Whether in fact, there is evidence of such usage as a matter of right :” I say, as a *matter of right*: for it is well known that many persons have granted protections; many have given badges to watermen, and have claimed that they should be exempt. Peers have done it; and questions in the house of lords have arisen upon it. Members of the house of commons have retained watermen; and perhaps the lords of the admiralty may have paid regard to applications made in behalf of such men, and may have discharged them. So here, if the parties had cared to have made such application, it might have been attended to and complied with. For, as a matter of *favour*, it is impossible to suppose the lords of the admiralty would have made a moment’s hesitation or dispute. But it is insisted on, and claimed as a *matter of right*.

“ Let us see therefore, whether this is an established exemption of *right*.

“ Every exemption throws the burthen heavier on those who are subject to bear it. Therefore, for their sakes, as well as for the public service, all exemptions ought to be examined and clearly set out. In the first place, it does not appear from any law book, it does not appear from

the centre of the city. On the 17th of December, four naval officers were brought before Messrs. aldermen Lewes, Plomer, Lee, and Wooldridge, charged with assaulting Charles Sotter and James Hutchins, armed with bludgeons, and

from any history, it has not been suggested at the bar, that there is, throughout the whole kingdom, any other exemption by the *common law*. When I speak of exemption, I mean exemption out of the description: for to suppose the usage extends to private gentlemen amusing themselves with yachts, &c. is absurd.

“Persons liable, must come purely *within the description* of seamen, sea-faring men, &c. He therefore, who is not within the description, does not come within the usage. The commission is not to press landmen, or persons of any other description of life, but such men as are described to be sea faring men, &c. Officers are not within the description. It is a very strong circumstance, therefore, that there is in fact no other exemption stated or alluded to, which rests upon the common law. There are many exemptions by statute: but they are grounded upon considerations of public policy at the particular times of their being made; and upon the circumstances of its being in fact better for the service that the objects of those acts should be exempted, than that they should be subject to be pressed; as, apprentices, landmen entering voluntarily; fishermen; all foreigners; and in respect of these last mentioned, the reason is very obvious: for, during the time of a war, the act of navigation has been dispensed with, and two-thirds of the crew of merchantmen have been allowed to be *foreigners*. Harpooners and others have been exempted. A line has been drawn with respect to the age: and many other instances might be put. But the exemption of those called the watermen of the city of *London*, is to be found in no statute or common law book whatsoever.

“Let us see then, how the usage stands, upon the evidence *now* before the court: a certificate from the water-bailiff is produced, the contents of which have been read; and in the affidavits, apprehensions are stated of a reputed custom that these thirty-one watermen are exempted from being impressed. *Four* instances, and no more, are produced, which arose at different times; and in respect of which, this equivocal kind of fact is stated; that four persons were pressed, and that upon application from the lord mayor to the admiralty, they were immediately or soon after discharged. But what the nature of the application was, whether *requested* as a matter of *favour*, or *demand*ed as of *right*, is not stated. If requested as a matter of favour, it would have been very extraordinary for the lords of the admiralty to have refused it. Here, the application is an application of right, by an order of court of the

and other unlawful weapons, and that they were without any peace officer. The beadle and constable of Lime Street ward, where the outrage was committed, coming up at the time, they took the offenders into custody, and brought them before the magistrates.

The assault being proved, the aldermen informed the officers, that they should find sureties for their appearance next session, and that any time that was necessary should be granted them for that purpose; but they said, "they did not chuse to give any bail; they acted by virtue of what they deemed authority; and that they desired the law should take its course." After every offer made by the aldermen to grant them time or indulgence was rejected, they were committed for the assault.

At a court of common council held the 6th of February, 1777, the chamberlain was ordered to pay the treasurer of

lord mayor and aldermen. As to *three* of the instances produced, it is not ascertained what they were; nor is there any memorandum or mention made of them in the admiralty books. As to the *fourth*, the man had so little idea of a *legal right* to be *exempted*, that he offered to find another person to serve in his room: and this is the only instance where the court sees the *manner* of the application. On the other hand, very strong circumstances, as to what has been the usage, arise from the instructions which are given to the officers employed on the impress service; and which it would be unpardonable in the admiralty to omit. In these instructions, every *known* and established *legal* mode of exemption is expressly taken notice of and set out. In addition to this, it is sworn by Mr. *Stephens*, in his affidavit, "that there never was any instruction given not to press the watermen of the city of *London*." If it were a legal right, the city should have insisted on having that right taken notice of in the instructions. Even particular protections from the navy and victualling office are taken notice of, but there is no mention of any protection from the lord mayor with respect to his watermen. There is no instance of any officer upon the impress service, ever having paid any regard to a water-bailiff's certificate, nor any case produced where the city has taken it up as a matter of right, or insisted upon it as such in a court of justice. Therefore, to give my opinion upon the case as at present stated, and upon the mere fact whether *this exemption as here claimed*, is or is not warranted by immemorial usage, I cannot say it is. At the same time, this opinion is without prejudice to any future evidence to be adduced in support of the claim, if any such can be furnished."

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St. Thomas's Hospital, for the use of the said hospital, the sum of 6,250*l.* agreed by the committee for re-building the gaol of Newgate with the said governors, and for the purchase of the houses between the Great and Little Old Bailey.

The contest with the colonies now put on an alarming appearance. The administration determining not to recede from the most absolute and arbitrary methods of subduction which they had adopted, pursued their plan with the utmost perseverance. The city, so materially affected by these circumstances, called a court of common council, on the 14th of February, when a motion was made and carried, that this court doth agree to petition the honourable House of Commons against a bill now depending in that honourable house, intituled, "A bill to empower his majesty to secure and detain persons charged with, or *suspected* of, the crime of high treason committed in North America, or on the high seas; or the crime of piracy." A committee was then appointed to draw up the said petition, who, after withdrawing for a short time, returned with a copy of a petition prepared by them for the purpose aforesaid, which was twice read, and unanimously agreed to. The petition was as follows:

" To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled.

" The humble petition of the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons of the City of London, in common council assembled,

" Sheweth,

" That your petitioners have seen a bill depending in this honourable house, to empower his Majesty to secure and detain persons charged with or suspected of, the crime of high treason, committed in North America, or on the high seas, or the crime of piracy.

" That if the said bill should pass into a law, your petitioners are apprehensive it will create the greatest uneasiness in the minds of many of his Majesty's good subjects, and tend to excite the most alarming disturbances; all persons indiscriminately being liable upon the ground of suspicion alone,

alone, without any oath made, and without convening the parties, or hearing what they can alledge in their own justification, to be committed to a remote prison in any corner of the realm, there to remain without bail or mainprize.

“ That the *Habeas Corpus* act, which is the great security of the liberties of the people, will be suspended.

“ That your petitioners are deeply affected with what they conceive will be the dangerous consequences of such a law, as from little motives of resentment, and various other inducements, there may be persons competent to commit, who may be tempted to exercise that power in its utmost latitude and extent.

“ That measures so violent and unconstitutional; so subversive of the sacred and fundamental rights of the people; and subjecting them to the most cruel oppression and bondage, will, in the judgment of your petitioners, be introductive of every species of mischief and confusion, and thereby precipitate the impending ruin of this country.

“ Your petitioners, therefore, earnestly beseech this honourable house, that the said bill may not pass into a law, or at least to take such care, as in their wisdom may seem meet, to prevent it from being extended in its operation, or construction, to any of his majesty's subjects resident in these kingdoms.”

It was then agreed and ordered, that the said petition be fairly transcribed, and signed by the town clerk, and presented immediately by the sheriffs, attended by the remembrancer, to the honourable house of commons.

The sheriffs, &c. accordingly proceeded to the house of commons, and presented the petition; which was ordered to lie upon the table.

The bill passed both houses of parliament, and afterwards received the royal assent: but, in this instance, such amendments were made to it as answered the principal purposes of the petition presented to the house of commons by the citizens of London.

But, as though the infatuation of violent authority had seized fast on the administration, and, as though they wished
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to try the issue of a rupture with the city, the obnoxious business of impressing the citizens was still carried on, and as constantly opposed.

A court of common council was held at Guildhall, in March, for the particular purpose of taking into consideration the case of John Millichep, a freeman and liveryman of London, who had fallen into the hands of a press gang, and under the immediate direction of the board of admiralty, was detained at the Nore. Mr. Mellichip was a lighterman, and resident in the ward of Queenhithe, of which Frederick Bull, esquire, was alderman. The beadle informed the alderman of Mr. Millichep's situation, he thought it incumbent upon him to take an active part, to endeavour to procure Millichep's release. He therefore wrote a letter to the admiralty board, claiming it both as a matter of justice and of right, that Mr. Millichep, as a liveryman, should be discharged. The same day an answer was returned, signifying, that the lords commissioners conceived the plea set up insufficient, and therefore peremptorily refused to give him his liberty. A committee withdrew and prepared a letter to the lords of the admiralty, which was ordered to be delivered by the town clerk, and the following resolutions were entered into :

“ Resolved, That this committee, in case the said John Mellichip shall not be discharged, in consequence of the said letter, be authorized to pursue such other measures as they shall think proper, for procuring his release.

“ Resolved, That the city solicitor do follow the direction of this committee therein.”

The lords of the admiralty then thought proper to send another answer to the letter which Mr. Rix, by direction of the court of common council had written to their lordships, they signified their intention to advise with counsel before they released Millichep.

The city solicitor obtained a writ of *Habeas Corpus*, in this case also, with which the city marshal went down to Portsmouth, and on his shewing the writ to the port admiral, he with the greatest politeness, on the eleventh of April;

ordered Mr. Millichep to be delivered up. But extraordinary as it may appear, on the 26th of the same month, the following letter was received by the city marshals at Guildhall.

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ I am very sorry to acquaint you that I am here, but I was prest this afternoon, by lieutenant Robertson, and I hope you will be so kind as come or send to get me released from off the ship's bottom. For I am now locked down like a criminal, and am not suffered to go upon deck: the lieutenant took me out of one of Mr. Randall's lighters, as I was coming up the river. Pray be so kind as to acquaint alderman Bull, that I am here, (on board the Tender,) for he desired me, if ever I was detained again, to let him know.

“ JOHN MILLICHEP.”

Millichep was afterwards discharged.

In Easter term, the city of London obtained a judgment of nonsuit against the corporation of Exeter, for not proceeding to trial in their action commenced against Mr. Thomas Amies, a freeman of London, for non-payment of their town dues, he claiming to be entitled to an exemption therefrom, as such freeman. By this judgment of nonsuit, the corporation of Exeter clearly admitted the claim in its full extent; but it was yet further acknowledged, by their having suffered a subsequent judgment to be signed, by default in an action lately commenced by Mr. Amies, against their wharfinger or receiver, for a satisfaction for damages sustained by their illegal seizure and detension of his goods, for such his refusal or non-compliance with their demand. The subsequent judgment obliged them again not only to admit, Mr. Amies's claim, but they admitted likewise the illegality of their seizure, and the detention of his goods. This very valuable and almost neglected privilege, or right of exemption from the payment of every such toll or duty for goods and merchandizes belonging to, or the property of the citizens or freemen of London wheresoever resident, and in every part of the kingdom, was now fully and clearly established and confirmed.

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On the 12th of May, 1778, the city and nation sustained a most important loss in the death of the illustrious Earl of Chatham; a statesman unrivalled in the annals of history. To aggrandize his country appears throughout the whole of his political conduct to have been his ultimate view. He was not only eminent for the display of eloquence in the senate, but the formation and execution of plans which at once astonished and terrified the common enemy, and rendered the British arms the dread and admiration of the world.

The system of impressing seamen seemed to have risen to its zenith in London, in the year 1779; for not satisfied with attacking liverymen and freemen, apprentices now formed part of the outrage. An application was made to the court of King's Bench, by Mr. Dunning, for an *Habeas Corpus* to bring up two lads from the Nore, who had been impressed. The affidavits on which the application for a *Habeas* were grounded, stated them to be apprentices, upon which Lord Mansfield said, "that instead of a *Habeas Corpus*, he should go a shorter way to work, and grant his warrant for bringing them before him, being apprentices. That he knew not that he possessed such authority, till, upon reading some old law books, he went to Lord Hardwicke, and consulted with him, when it was agreed that it was in their power to grant their warrant, in such a case, for an apprentice; that lord chief justice Holt was of the same opinion, and that there were several precedents for it." His lordship, therefore, ordered the regular steps to be taken for obtaining the warrant.

In the month of July, a cause was tried in the court of King's Bench, Guildhall, before Sir Francis Buller, and a special jury, the right of a claim set up by the city of London, to a duty of sixpence *per* load on all hay sold in Smithfield, not the property of freemen of London. This claim was disputed by several of the inhabitants of Finchley, who set up a contrary claim to an exemption from paying the said duty. On the part of the city it was contended, that the corporation thereof were by immemorial custom and royal grants, entitled to the receipt of hay-toll in Smithfield

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market, from all non-freemen; and that the inhabitants of Finchley had, repeatedly, as was proved, paid the said hay-toll; to which case was added, the testimony of divers old toll-gaterers, who deposed, that they took the duty of all non-freemen whatever. The defendants set up a claim to an exemption granted in favour of the bishop of London, and his men or tenants, by king John, whereby they were relieved from the payment of such duties and tolls; to this they added the testimony of divers old witnesses, who deposed that they had some thirty, forty, or fifty years since, sold hay in Smithfield, without paying the sixpence *per* load, of late years demanded, and received by the collectors of duties and tolls in that market; but as it did not appear that Finchley was a manor belonging to the bishop of London, at the time the aforesaid exemption was granted to his tenants, and as the exemptions with respect to the payments of the disputed duty were dubious, a verdict was given in favour of the city.

The first stone of the new session house, Clerkenwell Green, was laid by his grace the Duke of Northumberland, *custos rotulorum* of the county of Middlesex, on the 20th of August, with great formality.

On the 22d of November, Mr. Alderman Wilkes received an ample remuneration for his public struggles, by being elected chamberlain. It is a remarkable circumstance, that a few years afterwards, this gentleman, for whom half the nation was intoxicated; in whose cause so much blood had been spilled; and so much treasure had been subscribed; was rejected as member by the very county that had fought all his political battles; and sunk into obscurity as a patriot in the very metropolis, where numberless illuminations and other testimonies of regard had unreservedly distinguished themselves!

The year 1780, a year pregnant with disgrace and horror; commenced in discord, and closed in obloquy. The coercive transactions of the ministry had rendered it necessary to inquire into the means used to squander the public treasure, in carrying on an unprofitable and destructive war,

On the 10th of February, a court of common council was held to take into consideration the expenditure of public monies, and other grievances. The consequence was a petition to parliament, dictated in the strongest terms, and ultimately produced, accordant with the universal wishes of the people, the dismissal of an administration, that had brought poverty and disgrace on their country.

But we come now to record an event of riot and depredation, and its dismal effects. The city of London was seriously involved, and therefore we are compelled to be particular.

The indulgences granted by the act in favour of Roman Catholics, such as had not only the free exercise of their religion, in licensed chapels, equal to the Presbyterians and all other dissenters and sectaries, but toleration likewise *to erect schools* for the education of youth in the Romish tenets, greatly alarmed many people, some on religious, and others on political principles. The resistance made to a similar act in favour of the Catholics in Scotland, contributed to spread the alarm, and bills were dispersed, and advertisements inserted in the newspapers, inviting those who wished well to the cause, to unite under the title of the Protestant Association, and Lord George Gordon, who had been so active at the head of the malcontents in Scotland, was chosen their President; on Monday evening May 29th, a meeting was held at Coach-makers Hall, pursuant to public advertisement: at which his lordship observed, that the Popish bill was carried through both houses of parliament with such amazing rapidity, that the people had not time to form an opposition, or to make themselves acquainted with the pernicious consequences that must attend its passing into a law; that the indulgence given to Popery by the repeal of the act of William III. was inconsistent with the principles of the Revolution, had a tendency to endanger the succession in the House of Hanover, and threatened destruction to the civil and religious liberty of this country. His lordship read an extract from a Popish Catechism, just published by a Popish printer, in Grosvenor Square, and dispersed among
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the ignorant and unthinking part of the community; likewise an indulgence granted by the Pope, this present year, to his Holy Catholic subjects, and Saints, in this heretic country; and from these publications his lordship bid the people form an idea of the rapid and alarming progress that Popery was making in this kingdom; and the only way to stop it was going in a firm, manly, and resolute manner to the house, and shewing their representatives, that they were determined to preserve their religious freedom with their lives. That, for his part, he would run all hazards with the people; and if the people were too luke-warm to run all hazards with him, when their conscience and their country called them forth, they might get another President; for he would tell them candidly, that he was not a luke-warm man himself, and that if they meant to spend their time in mock debate and idle opposition, they might get another leader. This speech was received with the loudest applause, and his lordship then moved the following resolution: 'That the whole body of the Protestant Association do attend in St. George's Fields, on Friday next, at ten of the o'clock in the morning, to accompany his lordship to the House of Commons on the delivery of the Protestant petition; which was carried unanimously. His lordship then informed them, that if less than twenty thousand of his fellow-citizens attended him on that day, he would not present their petition; and for the better observance of order, he moved, that they should arrange themselves in four divisions; the Protestants of the city of London on the right, those of the city of Westminster on the left, the borough of Southwark third, and the people of Scotland resident in London and its environs to form the last division; and that they might know their friends from their enemies, he added, that every real Protestant, and friend of the petition, should come with a blue cockade in his hat.

On Friday, June 2, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, several thousands assembled at the place appointed, marshalling themselves in ranks, and waiting for their leader. About eleven o'clock, Lord George arrived, and gave directions in what manner he would have them proceed, and about twelve,

one party was ordered to go round over London Bridge, another over Blackfriars, and a third to follow him over Westminster. A roll of parchment, containing the names of those who had signed the petition, was borne before them. They proceeded with great decorum on their route, and the whole body was assembled, about half past two, before both houses of parliament, on which occasion they gave a general shout.

But however peaceable and well disposed some of them might be, others soon began to exercise the most arbitrary power over both lords and commons, by obliging almost all the members to put blue cockades in their hats, and call out 'No Popery!' Some they compelled to take oaths to vote for the repeal of the obnoxious act, others they insulted in the most indecent and violent manner. They took possession of all the avenues from the outer door to the very door of the house of commons, which they twice attempted to force open. The like attempt was made at the house of lords; but by the exertion of the door-keepers, and the care of Sir Francis Molyneux, it did not succeed*.

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* The archbishop of York was one of the first they attacked. As soon as his coach was known coming down Parliament Street, he was saluted with hisses, groans, and hootings; and when he got out of his carriage, to avoid greater mischief, was obliged to say, 'No Popery, no Popery!' The lord president of the council, Lord Bathurst, they pushed about in the rudest manner, and kicked violently on the legs. Lord Mansfield had the glasses of his carriage broken, the pannels beat in, and narrowly escaped with life. The Duke of Northumberland was exceedingly ill treated, and had his pocket picked of his watch. The bishop of Litchfield had his gown torn. The wheels of the bishop of Lincoln's carriage were taken off, and his lordship might be said to escape personal injury almost by a miracle, being obliged to seek shelter in the house of Mr. Atkinson, an attorney, where he changed his cloaths, and made his escape over the leads of the adjacent houses.

The Lords Townshend and Hillsborough came together, and were greatly insulted, and sent into the house without their bags, and with their hair hanging loose upon their shoulders. The coach of Lord Stormont was broken to pieces, himself in the hands of the mob for near half an hour: he was rescued at last by a gentleman, who harangued the populace, and prevailed on them to desist. Lords Ashburnham and Boston were treated with the utmost indignity, particularly Lord Boston, who

The greatest part of the day, the attention of the house of commons had been taken up in debates concerning the mob. When they had obtained some degree of order, Lord George introduced his business with informing them, that he had before him, a petition signed by near one hundred and twenty thousand of his majesty's Protestant subjects, praying, "a repeal of the act passed the last session, in favour of the Roman Catholics," and moved to have the said petition brought up.

Mr. alderman Bull seconded the motion, and leave was given accordingly.

Having brought up the petition, his lordship then moved to have it taken into immediate consideration, and was again seconded by Mr. alderman Bull.

After some debate, the house divided, and there appeared six for the petition, and one hundred and ninety-two against it. Soon after, the house adjourned, and the mob having dispersed from the avenues of both houses, the guards were ordered home.

Though order and tranquillity were re-established in this part of the town, it was far otherwise elsewhere. The mob paraded off in different divisions from Palace Yard, and some of them went to the Romish Chapel in Duke Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, others to that in Warwick Street, Golden Square, both which they in a great measure demolished. The military were sent for, but could not arrive time enough to prevent mischief. Thirteen of the rioters were however taken, and the mob, for that night, dispersed.

who was so long in their power that it was thought necessary by the peers to go as a body and endeavour, by their presence, to extricate him, but were prevented by the entrance of his lordship, with his coat all powdered, and his hair dishevelled. The front glass of Earl Gower's vis-a-vis was broken, and himself insulted and detained a considerable time. Lord Willoughby de Broke, Lord St. John, Lord Dudley, and many others, were personally ill treated; and Wellbore Ellis, esquire, was obliged to take refuge in the Guildhall of Westminster (whither he was pursued) the windows of which were broke, the doors forced, and justice Addington, with all the constables, expelled. Mr. Ellis escaped with the utmost hazard.

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The riots, which were so alarming on Friday evening, partly subsided on Saturday ; but on Sunday in the afternoon, the rioters assembled again in large bodies, and attacked the chapels and dwelling houses of the Catholics, in and about Moorfields. They stript their houses of furniture, and their chapels not only of the ornaments and insignia of religion, but tore up the altars, pulpits, pews, and benches, and made fires of them, leaving nothing but the bare walls.

On Monday, the rioters collected again. Some paraded with the reliques of havoc, which they collected in Moorfields, as far as Lord George Gordon's house in Welbeck Street, and afterwards burnt them in the adjacent fields. Another party went to Virginia Street, Wapping, and a third to Nightingale Lane, East Smithfield, where they severally destroyed the Catholic Chapels, and committed other outrages. Mr. Rainsforth, tallow-chandler, of Stanhope Street, Clare Market, and Mr. Maberley, of Little Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, who had appeared as evidences on the examination of those who had been committed, had each of their houses and shops stript, and their contents committed to the flames. Sir George Savile's house in Leicester Fields underwent the same fate.

This day also, which was held as the anniversary of the king's birth-day, a proclamation was issued, promising a reward of 500*l.* to those who would make discovery of the persons concerned in demolishing and setting fire to the Sardinian and Bavarian chapels. The persons formerly apprehended, were re-examined, and some were discharged ; others were ordered to Newgate, and were escorted there by a party of the guards, whom, on their return, the mob pelted.

All ranks of people began to be exceedingly terrified at the lawless proceedings of this day ; and numbers put blue cockades in their hats, although it might now be said to be the ensign of rebellion, on purpose to avoid personal injury and insult.

On Tuesday, all the military in town were ordered on duty at the Tower, at both Houses of Parliament, St. James's, St.

St. George's Fields, &c. during the day. Notwithstanding every precaution, Lord Sandwich was wounded in attempting to go down to the parliament house, his carriage demolished, and himself rescued by the military with difficulty.

About six in the evening, one party went to the house of justice Hyde, near Leicester Fields, which they destroyed; another party paraded through Long Acre, down Holborn, &c. till they came to Newgate, and publicly declared they would release the confined rioters. When they arrived at the doors of the prison, they demanded of Mr. Akerman the keeper, to have their comrades immediately delivered up to them; and upon his refusing, they began to break the windows, some to batter the doors and entrances into the cells, with pick-axes and sledge-hammers, others with ladders to climb the walls, while several collected fire-brands, and whatever combustibles they could find, and flung into his dwelling house. What contributed to the spreading of the flames, was the great quantity of household furniture belonging to Mr. Akerman, which they threw out of the windows, piled up against the doors, and set fire to; the force of which presently communicated to the house, from the house to the chapel, and from thence through the prison. As soon as the flames had destroyed Mr. Akerman's house, which was part of Newgate, and were communicated to the wards and cells, all the prisoners, to the amount of three hundred, among whom were four under sentence of death, and were ordered for execution on the Thursday following, were released.

Not satiated with the destruction of this strong building, a party was sent among the Catholics in Devonshire Street, Red Lion Square; another to the house of justice Cox, in Great Queen Street, which was soon destroyed; a third broke open the doors of the New Prison, Clerkenwell, and turned out all the confined; a fourth destroyed the furniture and effects, writings, &c. of Sir John Fielding; and a fifth desperate and infernal gang went to the elegant house of Lord Mansfield, in Bloomsbury Square, which they, with the most unrelenting fury, set fire to and consumed.—They began

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began by breaking down the doors and windows, and from every part of the house flung the elegant superb furniture into the street, where large fires were made to destroy it. They then proceeded to his lordship's law-library, &c. and destroyed some thousand volumes, with many capital manuscripts, mortgages, papers, and other deeds. The rich wardrobe of wearing apparel, and some very capital pictures, were also burned. Here they were very much incensed by the appearance of a small party of the army, which soon subsided, and they forced their way into his lordship's wine cellars, and plentifully bestowed it on the populace. A magistrate attended, read the Riot Act, and then was obliged to give orders for a detachment to fire, when about fourteen obeyed, and shot several men and women, and wounded others. They were ordered to fire again, which they did, without effect. This did not intimidate the mob; they began to pull the house down, and burn the floors, planks, spars, &c. and destroyed the out-houses and stables; and in a short time the whole was consumed. After the house was on fire, two engines arrived, but the firemen refused to play till the soldiers were removed; which being complied with, the populace would not suffer them to play till the whole was reduced to ashes; they did not however hinder them from playing on Mr. Baron Hotham's house, which was thereby preserved.—Lord and Lady Mansfield made their escape through a back door a few minutes before the rioters broke in and took possession of the house.—The inhabitants were obliged this night to illuminate their windows.

It is impossible to give any adequate description of the events of Wednesday. Notice was sent round to the public prisons of the King's Bench, Fleet, &c. by the mob, at what time they would come and burn them down. The same kind of infernal humanity was exercised towards Mr. Langdale, a distiller in Holborn, and several other Romish individuals. In the afternoon, all the shops were shut, and bits of blue silk, by way of flags, hung out at most houses,

with the words, 'No Popery,' chalked on the doors and window-shutters, by way of deprecating the fury of the insurgents, from which no person thought himself secure.

Government, in this exigency, exerted itself, as far as their force in town and their power under the direction of the magistrates would extend. Now, however, it was become necessary to make use of the royal prerogative, and give discretionary powers to the military. Nothing could convey a more awful idea of the mischief dreaded, than the guard placed in the Royal Exchange for the protection of the Bank, as nothing perhaps could have equalled the national desolation, had the diabolical purposes of the insurgents upon this place succeeded. Besides, soldiers were distributed at Guildhall, in the Inns of Court, in almost every place tenable as a fortification, and in some private houses; and the cannon was disposed to the best advantage in Saint James's Park.

As soon as the day was drawing towards a close, one of the most dreadful spectacles this country ever beheld was exhibited. At the same instant, the flames ascending and rolling in clouds from the King's Bench and Fleet Prisons, from New Bridewell, from the toll-gates on Blackfriars Bridge*, from houses in every quarter of the town, and particularly from the bottom and middle of Holborn, where the conflagration was horrible beyond description. The houses that were first set on fire at this last-mentioned place, both belonged to Mr. Langdale, an eminent distiller, and contained immense quantities of spiritous liquors.—Six-and-thirty fires were all blazing at one time, and all to be seen from one spot, made from the furniture of the inhabitants, and the wrecks of their houses in and about various parts of the metropolis.

Two attempts, through the course of the day, were made upon the Bank; but the rioters were so much intimidated by

* The toll-gates at Blackfriars appear to have been burnt for the sake of the plunder: some lives were lost there, and one man who was shot, ran thirty or forty yards before he dropped.

the strength with which they beheld it guarded, that their attacks were but feebly conducted; as they were repulsed at the first fire from the military. They made an effort to break into the Pay Office likewise, and met the same fate. Several of them fell in these skirmishes, and many were wounded.

It is impossible to ascertain the number of unhappy wretches who lost their lives in the course of this dreadful night.—Powder and ball was not so fatal to them as their own inordinate appetites. Numbers died with inebriation, especially at the distilleries of the unfortunate Mr. Langdale, from whose vessels the liquor ran down the middle of the street, was taken up in pails, and held to the mouths of the deluded multitude; many of whom killed themselves with drinking non-rectified spirits, and were burnt or buried in the ruins.

The regulars and militia had poured in so fast, in consequence of the expresses dispatched for that purpose, that the citizens on Thursday, began to recover from their consternation. They were, however, so thoroughly alarmed, and so much affected by the depredations they beheld on every side, that the shops were universally shut from Tyburn to Whitechapel, and no business of any kind, except at the Bank, was transacted.—The military were exceedingly active this day, and secured great numbers of disorderly persons; several were taken in the cells of Newgate, attempting to rekindle the fire in those parts which had not been totally destroyed.

The universal destruction of the prisons was a vast project. But history cannot parallel the depth of their schemes upon the Bank, the Treasury, and the demolition of the water-works, thereby to prevent the extinguishing any conflagration they had begun; and that these schemes were not the chimeras of fear, was evident. A strong guard was sent to the New River Head, and continued there on constant duty. Exclusive of these, the grand arsenal at Woolwich, the Mansion House, the Inns of Court, and many other places of the

greatest national concern, were devoted, and there was scarcely a person but what was unanimous in supposing the desolation of the city and country was intended.

The arrangement of the military force made on Thursday, produced so good an effect, that there was no riot or disturbances in any part of the town, in the course of the night, and the next day (Friday) peace and tranquillity was so far restored, that men had leisure to reflect on the horrors to which they had been exposed, with temper and coolness. They now returned to business, which had been suspended for the time, and the only uneasiness which they felt, was, that the metropolis was subjected to martial law. This very disagreeable apprehension arose from the proclamation which was issued, declaring that orders were given to the military to exert their utmost endeavours for the restoration of peace. In order, however, to dissipate this idea, the following hand-bill was circulated in every part of the town :—

“ Whereas some ill-designing and malicious persons have published, for the purpose of disquieting the minds of his majesty’s faithful subjects, that it is intended to try the prisoners, now in custody, by martial law ; notice is given, by authority, that no such purpose or intention has ever been in the contemplation of government ; but that the said prisoners will be tried by the due course of law, as expeditiously as may be.”

Many sacrifices to insulted justice followed : but the tale of terror already related, is sufficiently horrid, without dwelling longer on this part of the subject.

The effects produced by this dangerous insurrection were so sudden and so extraordinary, that a remark upon them is applicable here, because from the preceding account, posterity will learn to avoid the causes which, in this case, led nearly to the destruction of the metropolis. “ We have to observe, in the first place, that the leading members of the Protestant Association took great pains to demonstrate that their society had no concern with the riots ; and this they attempted, by disavowing the conduct of the rioters, and
by

by declaring that, in all the subsequent trials, it was not proved that any one of the rioters was among the association in St. George's Fields: but these excuses are made with a very bad grace, when we recollect the dangerous and personal insults offered to the members of both houses of parliament, on the day this association assembled; and when we recollect the depredations which followed were directed, at first, against the *chapels* and *houses* of the Roman Catholics. All this was expressly in the true spirit of intolerance and persecution, which dictated their opposition to the obnoxious act of parliament. With respect to the assertion, that no one of the rioters was a member of the association, it is at least liable to suspicion. Men who assemble to *awe* the deliberations of parliament, and personally to insult the Commons and Lords, were rioters in every sense of the word, and guilty of a very high crime. The right of individuals to petition parliament is indisputable; but it was not in the very nature of things, that so immense a concourse of people could be assembled without laying the foundation for a riotous temper and disposition. The order of our accounts sufficiently shews, that, whatever the intention of the well disposed members of this association might be, their assembling directly and immediately produced the riots, for which there was at first no other pretext than a dread and abhorrence of Popery.

It may be remarked also, how dangerous it is to assemble a great concourse of people, low, illiterate, and tumultuous, upon any pretence. This mob at first directed their hostilities against the Roman Catholics: here was something like a principle, though a very bad one; but no sooner had their evil dispositions (and that disposition must be evil that leads to persecution) been glutted with these first objects of their indignation, than they began to destroy all property, and endanger all persons, in defiance of every constituted authority. How this mob, however, came to acquire such ascendancy, is a matter of astonishment. They were, it is very remarkable, always unarmed, unless with weapons proper for the destruction of houses, and they always fled on
the

the appearance of the military ; but that appearance, the reader may have observed, was never made till too late. The city magistrates were uncommonly remiss* ; and the guards, which could have soon quelled the most dangerous of these riots, had no authority, until it became necessary to put the whole city under military discipline. It has been remarked, that some of the common people probably engaged with more readiness in the riots, from the unpopularity of the administration, at least among persons of that class ; and perhaps, so much violence and disorder could not have happened under any administration which had been universally respected by the common people†.

That the preceding statement may not appear to be unjust or illiberal, we will produce to the recollection of our readers, a circumstance of a peculiar cast, which fully displayed the inimical complexion of the North administration towards, not the banditti who had endangered the whole property of the metropolis ; not the principal movers and their agents during the preceding confusion ; but the already oppressed and alarmed citizens themselves !

During the riots, Lord Amherst had written a letter to Colonel Twisleton, who commanded the military force in the city, ordering him to *disarm all persons who did not belong*

* We except Sir Watkin Lewes, the present worthy Father of the City, who, by his *personal exertions*, actually protracted the burning of Mr. Langdale's house, at Holborn Bridge, for two nights :—and he was otherwise active wherever he could be useful. Courts of aldermen were also called at every hour of the day or night ; but as their efforts were not seconded by assistance from government, till too late, great part of their censure is done away ; more especially, when it is remembered, that not the national military, but those generous, public-spirited, and brave youths, afterwards denominated "THE LONDON ASSOCIATION," saved the BANK OF ENGLAND from the plunder and destruction intended. It should also be recollected, that the citizens finding themselves left exposed to indiscriminate ruin, assumed the resolution of arming themselves, and actually paraded the streets, before any effective military force came to their assistance. The nearest distance of the regular soldiery from the metropolis being *sixty miles* !

† Macfarlane's *Hist. of the Reign of George the Third*, vol. iii. p. 466, 467-

to the militia, nor bore arms under the royal authority. Such an order, when it came to be known, caused the greatest discontent, and when parliament met, the Duke of Richmond moved, that all the letters which had passed on this occasion should be read, together with a plan of an association by the lord mayor, and the declaration of rights, in the second of William and Mary. He then proposed the following resolution :

“ That the letter of Jeffery Lord Amherst, dated the 13th of June, to colonel Twisleton, then commanding an armed force in the city of London, in which he orders him to disarm the inhabitants, who had armed themselves for the defence of their lives and properties, and likewise to detain their arms, contained an unwarrantable command to deprive the citizens of their legal property, was expressly contrary to the fundamental principles of the constitution, and a violation of one of their most sacred rights, as declared in the second of William and Mary, *that every Protestant subject of this empire, is entitled to carry arms in his own defence.*”

The other members, on the side of opposition, maintained that this was a matter of serious consequence, and that the letter in question ought not to be allowed to descend to posterity, without some mark of disapprobation. The ministry replied, that although Englishmen had a right to arm in defence of themselves, their property, or even that of their neighbours, yet allowing them to assemble in bodies, might be attended with the worst consequences. They did not in direct terms, approve of the letter written by Lord Amherst, but they believed it written in a hurry, and by an officer whose constant employment in the field kept him ignorant of all the privileges of the Bill of Rights! The question, accordingly, was rejected without a division. The city was burthened with mercenary soldiers, at the enormous expence of 4,000*l.* per day ; and thus were the public made sensible of the care exhibited during the *immaculate* administration of Lord North and his co-adjutors.

The dissatisfaction of the nation now displayed itself in strong terms against the war. The injured city of London led the way in a very pointed remonstrance, presented at St. James's, on the 18th of December, 1781, in which the livery deplore "the intention," manifested in his majesty's speech, "of persevering in a system of measures, which has proved so disastrous to this country." In so critical and awful a moment, they profess, "that to flatter, is to betray; that his majesty's ministers have, by false assertions, and fallacious suggestions, deluded his majesty and this nation, into the present unnatural and unfortunate war!"—The remonstrance proceeded in the following animated manner:—"Your majesty's fleets have lost their wonted superiority:—your armies have been captured:—your dominions have been lost:—and your majesty's faithful subjects have been loaded with a burthen of taxes, which, even if our victories had been as splendid, as our defeats have been disgraceful; if our accession of dominion had been as fortunate, as the dismemberment of the empire has been cruel and disastrous, could not in itself be considered, but as a great and grievous calamity."—The address concluded with exhorting his majesty, "no longer to continue in a delusion, from which the nation had awakened," and with imploring that he would "dismiss from his presence and councils, all the advisers, both public and secret," of these destructive measures.

The example of the city was immediately followed by that of Westminster, and most other places in the kingdom; and they ultimately succeeded in dissolving a ministry equally obnoxious to the monarch and his subjects.

After this desirable event had taken place, grateful to the king who had consented to the prayer of their petition, and fulfilled the wishes of the empire, on the 12th of April 1782, the lord Mayor, aldermen Crosby, Bull, Sawbridge, Wilkes, Halifax, Kitchen, Lewes, Hart, Crichton, Wright, sheriffs Gill and Nicholson, the Recorder, city officers, and near two hundred of the common council, in chariots and coaches, proceeded from Guildhall to St. James's, with the following address:

"To

“ To the King’s most excellent Majesty,

“ The humble address of the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons, in common council assembled.

“ Most Gracious Sovereign,

“ We your majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons, of the city of London, in common council assembled, beg leave to approach your throne with sentiments of the most sincere loyalty and attachment to your royal person and family, and humbly to express our warmest thanks to your majesty for having graciously complied with the wishes of your people, in making a change in your majesty’s councils, and taking those persons into your confidence, who are respected by their country for their constitutional principles and distinguished abilities, and whose endeavours we trust, with the blessing of providence, will restore the dignity of your majesty’s crown, union among your people, and promote the interest and prosperity of all your dominions.

“ Signed by order of the court,

“ WILLIAM RIX.”

To which his majesty returned the following most gracious answer :

“ The assurances given me by the city of London of their loyalty and attachment to my person and family, cannot fail of giving me the highest satisfaction—the dignity of my crown, the union of my people, and the interests and prosperity of all my dominions, must ever be the principal objects of my care.”

They were all very graciously received, had the honour of kissing his majesty’s hand ; and his majesty was pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on William Plomer, esquire, the lord mayor.

The history of the British metropolis having been thus deduced to an important era, the subsequent narrative is comprized in a narrow compass. The circumstances are not of consequence sufficient to admit of peculiar detail ;

but at the same time, no fact of interest will be neglected.

The year 1783, was distinguished by the return of peace, which, though on humiliating terms, brought with it many concomitant advantages; and it saved the nation from the continuance of a war which must have ended in inevitable ruin.

A quick transition occurs from this period till the year 1787; [agreeably to our plan,] we pass over the Coalition, the election contests, and other party events, which distinguish the intermediate space of time.

But during this year, an invasion of the chartered rights of the city, was obtruded, by the justices of the county of Surrey, which we shall relate, when we come to speak of the transactions of the Borough of Southwark.

The close of the year was productive of the distress of an affectionate people, occasioned by the indisposition of a beloved monarch; all ranks of people deplored the calamity which this event occasioned in the public mind; but the scene was happily changed to convalescence in the ensuing spring, when joy on the return of his majesty's health, was expressed in the most unbounded tokens of loyalty as well as of gratitude to heaven for such an ingular token of its regard.

In April 1789, their majesties, and all the royal family, the members of both houses of parliament, and the municipal bodies of the metropolis, solemnized a thanksgiving at St. Paul's cathedral: the children of the charity schools in the city and its vicinity, to the amount of several thousands, formed two extensive galleries on each side of the dome; and exhibited a picture equally interesting, magnificent, and awful.

The years 1790 and 1791, were conspicuous for the worth, virtue, and liberality of the chief magistrates, William Pickett, esquire, the projector of the improvements in the Strand, and on Snow Hill; and John Boydell, esquire, the patron and encourager of the arts; and the founder of a scientific commerce, hitherto unknown.

In

In consequence of the new opinions which had produced a revolution in France, and destroyed the life of its amiable monarch in the year 1792; a number of factious spirits appeared in England, and promulgated sentiments destructive of all rational order and duty. Inflammatory publications had been diffused among the vulgar—they were taught to believe that liberty and equality were the greatest blessings of mankind, without taking into the scale, the inequalities of intellect, by which ingenious men, particularly in this country, had emerged from the lowest classes of subjects to the highest considerations in the state. Such dogmas, unaided by concomitant premises, had induced a spirit of licentiousness bordering on revolt and rebellion. At this crisis, the merchants, bankers, traders, and other well-meaning inhabitants of London, (on the 4th of December,) held a meeting in Merchant Taylor's Hall, Threadneedle Street, when the following spirited declaration was unanimously approved of, and signed in one afternoon, by no less a number than eight thousand and twelve persons:

“ Declaration in Support of the Constitution of Great Britain :

“ We the merchants, bankers, traders, and other inhabitants of London, whose names are hereunto subscribed, perceiving with the deepest concern, that attempts are made to circulate opinions contrary to the dearest interest of Britons, and subversive of those principles which have produced and preserved our most invaluable privileges, feel it a duty we owe to our country, ourselves, and our posterity, to invite all our fellow-subjects to join with us in the expression of sincere and firm attachment to the constitution of these kingdoms, formed in remote, and improved in succeeding ages, and under which the glorious revolution in 1688 was effected; a constitution wisely framed for the diffusion of happiness and true liberty, and which possesses the distinguished merit, that it has on former occasions been, and we trust will in future be, found competent to correct its errors and reform its abuses. Our experience of the im-

provements of agriculture and manufactures ; of the flourishing state of navigation and commerce, and of increased population, still further impels us to make this public declaration of our determined resolution to support, by every means in our power, the ancient and most excellent constitution of Great Britain, and a government by king, lords, and commons ; and to exert our best endeavours to impress on the minds of those connected with us, a reverence for, and a due submission to, the laws of their country, which have hitherto preserved the liberty, protected the property, and encreased the enjoyments of a free and prosperous people."

The death of the king of France, and the subversion of all regular monarchy, had, however, not only involved that unhappy country in desolation ; but like a contagion, the malady had pervaded other parts of Europe. In support of her own rights, and those of her allies, Great Britain, which had been molested by French principles and practices, was induced to resort to arms ; and after much anxious expectation, the victory of Lord Howe over the French fleet on the 1st of June, 1794, instilled into the minds of all, the highest sense of joy and approbation. On the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday immediately following the Extraordinary Gazette, on this occasion, there were illuminations in all parts of the metropolis, a subscription was opened at Lloyd's Coffee House, for the widows and children of the seamen, who fell in the engagement ; and the proprietors of Drury Lane Theatre, gave a clear benefit, producing upwards of 1,300*l.* in aid of the subscription, which soon amounted to a considerable sum.

On the 25th of this month, a dreadful fire happened at Cock-hill, Shadwell, which was so extensive in its destruction, that out of one thousand two hundred houses in the hamlet of Ratcliffe, where it broke out, not more than five hundred and seventy were saved ; an accident so distressing and so widely spread, had not happened since the great fire in 1666.

The

The year 1795, was distinguished by the marriage of his royal highness the Prince of Wales, with her serene highness the Princess Caroline Amelia Elizabeth of Brunswick; for the destruction of the parish church of St. Paul, Covent Garden, by fire; and for a remarkable trial for false imprisonment*.

A cause

* This cause was tried on the 2d of March, before Lord Kenyon, at Guildhall, Mr. James Croome, auctioneer, being plaintiff, and Paul Le Mesurier, late lord mayor, defendant. Mr. Erskine opened the case for the plaintiff. Among other observations he stated, that the late lord mayor, who was the defendant in this action, came there on the plea of not guilty, without having tendered any thing. He conceived it would have been more becoming the dignity of the chief magistrate of the city, before he came there, to tender an amends, the extent of which, the jury, on their oaths, would have decided.

Mr. Croome, he understood, some days before this imprisonment, published a hand-bill, in these words: "A meeting will be held at Founders' Hall, Lothbury, on Friday, the 22d of August, 1794, at five in the afternoon, to take into consideration the appealing against the London Militia Act."

In consequence of that advertisement, the late lord mayor sent one of his city marshals to the house of the plaintiff, to desire him to come to the Mansion House. Mr. Croome, received the officer with propriety, and told him, he would wait upon his lordship. When he appeared, the lord mayor asked him, whether he knew any thing about the hand-bill that had been stated, and other hand-bills, which were then produced. Mr. Croome answered, that he had directed the hand-bills (convoking the meeting at Founders' Hall) to be printed. He could not tell who the persons were that might assemble. There was no violence—no riot. His lordship was pleased to say, 'If you cannot tell me who those people are, where they live, and who printed the hand-bills, I'll give you a night's lodging in the Compter.' The plaintiff said, 'I have neither offended your lordship, nor violated the laws. Have not the citizens of London a right to meet when and where they please, to consider what is proper for them?'—'That,' replied the lord mayor, 'is the question;' and, accordingly, he determined the question himself, and without even a warrant, upon which the plaintiff could have been brought up on a Habeas Corpus, neglecting all the forms of law, as well as violating its substance, he sends this citizen to the common gaol, where he remained a whole night; after which he was again brought before his lordship and discharged.

Mr. Mingay rose in behalf of Mr. Le Mesurier, and reprobated the conduct

A cause was tried in January, 1796, by which it was determined, that Dissenting Chapels, &c. are not liable to parochial dues. The action was brought by the parish of Kensington, against the trustees of the Protestant Dissenting Chapel in the same parish. A similar decision had previously taken place at Guildhall, on an appeal from the trustees of the Meeting House in Hare Court, Aldersgate Street, against the demand for rates by the parish officers.

conduct of Mr. Croome in the most severe terms. Though he was the zealous advocate of freedom, he was no advocate of licentiousness. What had these hand-bills to do with the Militia Act? He did not say that they had not a right to assemble, to petition parliament against any supposed grievance; but this was all a pretext. He thought the lord mayor, instead of deserving censure for what he had done, deserved praise. He attended to the importance of his duty at the moment: he meant to act fairly and honourably, and to do that which was to be of service to the public. He submitted to the jury, that the lord mayor was entitled to their verdict; but if he could not have their verdict in strictness of law, he was certain they would think the smallest coin in the kingdom would answer the justice of the case.

Lord Kenyon said, "I think there is not here a defence in point of law, to entitle the defendant to your verdict. The commitment of the party ought to have been by a written warrant, and not by a parole order; and, therefore, you must give your verdict for the plaintiff. But it is for you, by your verdict, to declare to the public your opinion of this cause: though not strictly legal, yet, perhaps, you may see the propriety of the conduct of the magistrate on that occasion. The history of this country affords many instances where a party, who, though he has not acted strictly conformably to law, may not only not deserve punishment, but may have merit with the public. On many occasions, the ministry of this country have ordered things to be done for which they have received the applause of all the world, and yet, not being strictly conformable to law, parliament has passed an act of indemnity.

"If you think the defendant, when he imprisoned the plaintiff, was wantonly sporting with the liberty of a fellow-subject, you will shew your indignation by the damages you give; but if you think, that, though he transgressed the strict line of the law, he was only anxious to preserve the public peace in difficult times, and was doing all he could for the benefit of the public, you will mark your opinion, perhaps, by giving the plaintiff the lowest coin in the kingdom."

Verdict for the plaintiff.—Damages ONE FARTHING, which carried costs.

The national thanks given for the three great naval victories of Lord Howe, St. Vincent, and Duncan, took place on the 19th of December, 1797. His majesty went in procession to St. Paul's Cathedral, attended by the queen and royal family, the great officers of state, the lords and commons, naval and military officers, &c. The foot guards lined the streets from St. James's to Temple Bar; and from Temple Bar to St. Paul's, the City Militia, the East India, and other Volunteer Corps. The windows of the houses were decorated with most of the beauty and fashion in the kingdom, which, together with the clearness of day, made it one of the finest spectacles ever remembered.

But the part which Great Britain had taken in the great contest, and the vigour she had evinced in disconcerting the ambitious views of an insidious and faithless nation, so affected the rulers of France, that they vowed eternal enmity to this country; and that they might appear to carry their menaces into effect, the invasion of Great Britain was projected.

During such an important crisis, the subjects of Great Britain were not inactive. They rallied round the basis of their glorious constitution; and that their endeavours might not be construed into mere professions of loyalty, the city of London set an example of patriotism, of loyalty, and of generosity unequalled. On the 9th of February, 1798, John William Anderson, esquire, lord mayor, attended by a numerous body of respectable merchants, bankers, &c. appeared upon a temporary hustings erected in the Royal Exchange, for the purpose of promoting voluntary contributions for the service of the country. The whole area of the Exchange was crowded with the most respectable merchants and traders of London, to the number of many hundreds.—The lord mayor having declared the object of the meeting, Mr. Bosanquet, in a very animated speech, stated “the danger and difficulty, in the present crisis, and the necessity in this emergency, for every person stepping forward. The merchants of London, he was certain, would ever support their high character for patriotism and liberality, and

and he hoped, the general feeling and sentiments of the people would be universal: He concluded with proposing that books of subscription should be opened at the Exchange, and afterwards forwarded to the Bank, recommending at the same time, that similar steps should be taken by all corporate bodies in the kingdom."

As soon as the meeting was dissolved, four separate books were opened on the hustings; and at the close of the day, the exact sum subscribed in cash was 46,534*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* which, if calculated for the time the books were opened, is at the rate of 400*l.* a minute, The number of subscribers was two hundred and eighteen, and the subscriptions from one guinea to 3,000*l.* which last sum was the the donation of the house of Boyd, Benfield, and Co. with the promise of continuing it annually during the war. Several other subscriptions were also set down as annual; and the whole as free gifts, without any reference to a composition in lieu of taxes.

The subsequent transactions of our city are great and extraordinary; her sons united in themselves, characters which were hitherto discordant and incompatible, unsupported by tributary states, unassisted by allies, and without the burthen of mercenary troops, they combined for their defence, the strength of Carthage and of Rome—"the soldiers of London were merchants, and her merchants soldiers!" A "nation of shopkeepers," as they were contemptuously called, unfurled the flag of defiance against the unprincipled attacks of foreign tyranny, and they individually armed, "in defence of the palladium which their ancestors had committed to their custody; which, while they possessed it, would render them invincible; and which, whilst they had life, they were determined to a man to protect.

A monarch of freemen and heroes could not but be gratified by the affection and loyalty of his countrymen, and particularly of his citizens of London. His majesty experienced a heartfelt satisfaction in their conduct, and was determined personally to express, what none but a benign sovereign could conceive.

On

-- On the 21st of June, 1799, in pursuance of his gracious intention, previously intimated, to inspect the different volunteer corps, the king proceeded from Buckingham House, over Westminster Bridge, to the Asylum, where the Surrey corps were drawn up to receive him. Having passed these with the usual salute, he entered the city by way of Blackfriars Bridge, where he was met by the city magistrates, &c. His majesty then pursued his route through the city to the Royal Exchange, the Bank, the India House, and Tower Hill, and expressed his satisfaction on the appearance of the volunteers drawn out in each place. He and his attendants then thence to Finsbury Square, where he proceeded along the south side, first passed the light horse volunteers, and then the honourable Artillery Company, who had his royal highness the Prince of Wales at their head, as their captain-general. His majesty then went out by the north-west corner, towards Islington, and after inspecting the corps there, rode down the Duke of Bedford's private road, to the Lord Chancellor's, where an elegant entertainment was provided; he was there met by the Queen, the Duke of Clarence, five of the princesses, &c. About three o'clock, the king re-mounted, and proceeded to the Foundling Hospital, where, and in the way to which, were several different corps, all which his majesty complimented. On his departure from the hospital, he returned by Guildford Street, the New Road, Marybone, and Paddington, to Hyde Park, where the Westminster and St. George's volunteers were drawn up.

The king ultimately proceeded down Constitution Hill to the Queen's Palace, which he reached about five o'clock. The metropolis of the British empire never presented a prouder or more delightful spectacle. The following is a return of the strength of the volunteer forces at the different stations:—St. George's Fields, 1596.—Bridge Street, Blackfriars, 1054.—St. Paul's Church Yard, 1000.—Royal Exchange and Bank, 1011.—India House, 500.—Tower Hill, 1033.—Goodman's Fields, afterwards moved to Guildford

Street, 823.—Finsbury Square, 862.—Islington, 394.—Foundling Hospital, 1230.—Hyde Park, 2790.—Total, 12,208.

The transactions of the year 1800, commenced in an awful and interesting manner, the life of a beloved king, was endangered by means of a maniac. On the 15th of May, at a review in Hyde Park, a casual shot had wounded a gentleman very near his majesty, but as this could not be construed into any design, it was not so considered: but in the evening, on the king's entering Drury Lane Theatre, and whilst, as usual, he was bowing to the audience, a person of the name of James Hadfield, fired a horse-pistol, the effect of which was providentially defeated, by the contents being directed to the upper part of the royal box. It was afterwards proved that the assassin was deranged in his intellects, and when he came to be tried for the atrocity, he was sentenced to a lunatic asylum, where he still continues. The citizens of London were among the first to congratulate his majesty on his wonderful deliverance, couched in a loyal and affectionate address.

On the 4th of July, a cornfactor of the name of Rusby, was indicted for regrating, and convicted. Lord Kenyon observed to the jury, "*you have conferred, by your verdict, almost the greatest benefit on your country that ever was conferred by any jury.*" This verdict was the more gratifying, as the cause had occurred during a time that the people were riotously inclined on account of the high price of bread.

Lord Kenyon's remark at this time was more necessary, as the high price of provisions had driven the lower classes of people to many acts of desperation; and that their complaints were far from being groundless, the subsequent resolutions justify.

At a court of common council held on the 14th of October, the following address was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be presented to his majesty by the whole court:

" To

" To the King's most excellent Majesty,

" The humble address and petition of the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons of the city of London, in common council assembled.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

" We, your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons of the city of London, in common council assembled, humbly approach your throne with deep concern, to represent that every class of your majesty's subjects, but more especially those of the laborious and industrious poor, are now suffering extreme distress, arising from the excessive price of bread, and of every other necessary article of life. Under circumstances so trying, your majesty may rest assured, that your faithful citizens of London, steady in their attachment to your majesty's person and government, and in their confidence in that happy constitution under which we live, have discouraged, and will continue to discourage, every attempt to excite tumultuous and disorderly proceedings, not only unjustifiable in themselves, but directly tending to continue and to increase the present calamity, and will, both by active exertions and by example, do their utmost to encourage a strict and uniform obedience to the laws, looking to the legislature, and to that only, under Divine Providence, for relief; and trusting in your majesty's paternal regard for your people, that its utmost energy will be exerted for that purpose. We therefore, humbly pray, that your majesty will be pleased speedily to convene your parliament, that they may concert such measures as they in their wisdom shall judge most effectual to remove the sufferings, and supply the wants, of your people; thereby preserving to them the blessings they have long enjoyed under your majesty's mild and gracious government."

On the 14th of October, the lord mayor and corporation of London, attended his majesty with the above address, to which his majesty was pleased to make this most gracious answer:

" I am

“ I am always desirous of recurring to the advice and assistance of my parliament on any public emergency; and, previous to receiving your petition, I had given directions for convening my parliament for the dispatch of business.”

In the course of this year it was moved and carried in the affirmative, that 1,500*l. per annum*, should be granted to the lord mayor, in addition to his allowance by the city, as requisite to support the dignity of the office.

THUS have we deduced our HISTORY to the close of the year eighteen hundred. We certainly exceed the compass prescribed; but to have said less, would degenerate our subject. Some unavoidable errors may have escaped; but they are not wilful, and therefore we hope for excuse and candid correction. We however, take upon us to assert, that as we have in no instance wandered from our purpose of detailing circumstances *peculiarly attached* to the HISTORY OF THE BRITISH METROPOLIS, we may venture a claim to confidence in the authenticity and correctness of our TOPOGRAPHICAL department.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

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